

Break

Trojan horse

What is ostensibly a small voluntary set-together for a group of young people who want to study Latin, Greek and classical literature run by a group of teachers "who enjoy reading the classics", is being conducted with more than usual sympathy and attention by the Inner London Education Authority.

At 10 o'clock last Monday morning 45 students mostly from London secondary schools—all but one of them aged 15 or over—started work with seven tutors at the fortnightly London summer school in classics at Camden Girls School. By 10.45 the ILEA's staff inspector for secondary education, Trevor Jaggar, had arrived to see what was going on.

The summer school, the first to be held in London, is modelled on the joint Association of Classical Teachers' successful Cheltenham summer school, now in its ninth year. The 150 places in the Cheltenham school, which is residential, are now over-subscribed and Mrs Carol Handley, headmistress of Camden, and her husband, Professor Eric Handley (University College, London) thought it worth testing demand for a non-residential school in London.

They are gratified to find so many takers, particularly as the fee is £15 and it cannot be paid by the local authority through individual schools can make grants to their pupils. The ILEA has backed the project to the extent of paying to keep Camden open for the course, paying the students' fares and making transport to lectures available. The school has supplied four tutors, University College three.

It seems a safe guess that if the school is a success, it will join a list of short-term intensive study courses in what are diplomatically described as "minority subjects" as possible candidates for more permanent ILEA backing. The intensive languages courses in German, Italian, Spanish and Russian run earlier in the month at the South Bank and the Central London polytechnics are other candidates and, according to Mr Jaggar, computer studies, history of art and architecture are other possibilities.

From September one of the ILEA's advisory heads, Dr Edward Conway, will be charged with looking into the organization, timing (term or holidays) and financing (fees or free) of this kind of course. The authority will also be considering



"I don't know about Mars, but there's still no sign of life in it."

ing such knotty questions as how best to thread the political minefields of anti-classicism left over in London from the long battle to end 11 plus selection.

If accepted, intensive summer courses of this kind could take their place as a modest part of the authority's £60,000 summer programme. At the moment this consists virtually entirely of extra reading courses for both primary and secondary children and headstart courses for children transferring to secondary school or starting infant school.

The classics summer school, like the intensive courses in modern languages other than French, gets its impetus from the feeling among teachers—that the survival of the subject is uncertain in the reorganized maintained sector and a general reluctance to be driven into beleaguered survival in the independent sector.

The young people attending the Camden school, with the exception of three from Crown Woods and one from Paddington, were all from grammar, direct grant or independent schools plus a few from universities.

Most of the students were not, in fact, total beginners in classics, though Mrs Handley had hoped they would attract some. They had nearly all done some Latin, most O level—only four were beginners and all but seven joined the course at Grade A. At the advanced level, Robin Lambert from Sevenoaks, who is due to go up to Newnham in Cambridge in the autumn, had been told by the college to brush up her Greek at one of the summer schools.

Among the 10 beginners in Greek, Hugo Sands from Crown Woods had read his first sentence within the first hour. By the end of two weeks he would be reading Homer's

Odyssey book VI, partly because it's very attractive early Greek with a simple structure and partly because it's a major bit of literature," according to Mr Handley.

Indeed the pleasure of classical literature pervaded the summer course in a way that it could never have done when the classical languages were something to be sloged over as essential admission qualifications. This new emphasis strongly colours the JACT Greek course for 10-plus beginners which is getting its second year of trials at the summer school. Still available only in Rotunda copies, the course, produced by the same group as the Cambridge classics course, plunges students straight into literary Greek.

Morris men

Kelmscott House, Hammer-smith, was opened last week as a centre for studying William Morris, who lived there for the last 18 years of his life. The Rt Hon Sir Harold Wilson, KG, OBE, FRS, MP, performed the ceremony, speaking at some length of his admiration for Morris's work and politics. Sir Harold considered Morris was "a socialist for one reason only—because he was concerned with the individual". He wondered what Morris would think of us now.

One did wonder what Morris might have thought of the deconsecration of industrialists, lord mayors, publishers and academics, not to mention His Excellency the Icelandic Ambassador. However, they were all talking like ardent Morrisians and, as one of the William Morris Society trustees explained, might be good for contributions to funds, which are extremely low.

Kelmscott House was the gift of Mrs Helena Stephenson, who had lived there for many years. It was in rather poor condition and perhaps something of an embarrassment to the trustees of the William Morris Society. They tried to let it "to someone who would appreciate it" but found no one prepared to appreciate it for less than a 25-year lease. So they decided to set it up as a study centre, with a visiting fellow and up to three foreign students "pursuing related studies".

The first visiting fellow, Dr Richard B. Matthews from Florida, took up residence last October with three American students. They have been most welcome and are expanding, but also restoring the house somewhat. The house looks sound but has little of Morris, or indeed of anything, in it (there are 80 Morris designs belonging to the society, however). The advantages of living there might not seem very striking, but at least one of the students has enjoyed it. "You soak up a lot of atmosphere," he said, "and it's real handy for the V and A."

Next year's fellow is Professor John V. Fleming of Princeton University, who was chosen from applications from all over the world.

The fellowship is worth £3,000 a year, given by the Leverhulme Trust. Three students have also been chosen, from Australia and North America, and they get no financial support from the centre. No English need apply, the centre only takes people from overseas. Some say this is to encourage foreign academics to these shores, and to send them back to disseminate knowledge of William Morris. But some say it's because of the Rem Act.

How to save £5m?

The current controversy about the move of BBC Open University productions from their home at Alexandra Palace to a new purpose-built production centre to be built on the university campus at Milton Keynes, touches on the delicate, uncertain relationship between the two institutions.

The government has earmarked more than £5m to build the centre, but there has been no official announcement yet. Five years after the relationship between the BBC and the Open University was consummated, one would have expected that the two parties would have grown closer together in mutual respect and would now happily contemplate living together, if not under the same roof, at least on the same site.

Officially they are happy to do so, but unofficially the BBC is telling a different story. The notion of a new centre was first mooted when it was feared that the BBC would be evicted by the end of the decade from Alexandra Palace (the original home of BBC television 40 years ago and later the base for BBC (television) News). Now the BBC can apparently stay on at Alexandra Palace, the immediate need for a move is gone.

Still, the naive observer might have expected BBC production people to welcome a brand new centre. Many, however, maintain they are perfectly happy with the facilities they have, and are afraid that inflation will seriously erode the value of the grant, limiting the facilities of what is built.

Many BBC staff are unwilling to leave London, not merely leaving their homes but also contact with professional colleagues in broadcasting and the many technical services that they now draw upon. Moreover, they fear that they will be dominated by the OU and lose their professional identity not at Milton Keynes.

Nor is this entirely one-sided: many academics share their view. One university reader in literature wrote to the university's house journal recently arguing that the OU would lose some of its finest producers and technical staff if the move took place. He also regretted decreasing opportunities for academics to work in and visit London, and he predicted "a soggy, more boring life for us all".

There is a wider issue too that internal campaigners are keen to emphasize: is there not in the more deserving use—either before the Open University generally or more generally in education—than £5m (the total now budgeted nearer £7m)?

Cash crisis

One of the more interesting experiments in day care in London is in danger of collapse because it has no money.

The Children's Community Centre at 123 Dartmouth Park Hill, Highgate New Town is a three-and-a-half-year-old "radical" nursery—radical because it was conceived by a group of people from the women's movement and because it is run collectively by men as well as women.

Parents take part in the day activities and children help with the running of the short-life nursery. They also help prepare their own (healthy) food and clean up afterwards.

Books and conversation deliberately challenge traditional sex roles and cooperation, equality and tolerance are held up as good. Most of the children live near Dartmouth Park Hill and come from one-parent families. They meet all costs, their grant this year being £5,500. The centre relies, however, that £2,000 more will be needed to survive until the year ends when only offering £500 tide them over.

To raise money, the centre is running a film benefit at 2.15 p.m. on Sunday, 123, the film about work, will be shown, and there will be a discussion on the day of day care. A playbus is to be run for the afternoon so that parents with children can come. Tickets 50p.

Artists

Next week

Holiday notebook: Michael Marland, head of Woodberry Down School, London, will take over the back page of the Education Supplement on August 13.

C. Michael Darcy on teacher induction schemes.

Pamela Horn on Victorian schoolmistresses; Cynthia Mitchell on "good, old-fashioned discipline".

Marion Glastonbury looks at the essence of children's literature. Books: Robert Shields on child development; Colin Crevier on archaeology; Michael Hurst on social sciences.

TES Extra: English as a foreign language.

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"Grammar, comprehensive, grammar, comprehensive..."

Tameside: selection in September?

Teachers in Tameside say they will not proper grammar school selection tests at the beginning of next term as long as the council recognizes that a dispute exists between the teachers and the council and sets up a conciliation panel. Story on Tameside round-up page 5.

Jobs on the cheap

A curricula version of the job creation programme was announced by the government this week. Unemployed teenagers will be given at least six months' work experience while being paid a little more than the minimum wage. But the controversial scheme to pension off elderly workers has been postponed. Philip Vining reports page 3.

No time like the past?

Pamela Horn looks back on the daily life of Victorian schoolmistresses; Cynthia Mitchell is reminded of the old days by the contemporary struggle for discipline pages 14, 15.

In and out of Wonderland

Marion Glastonbury looks at the particular qualities of children's literature and tries to find the essence of the genre page 16.

TES Extra:

English as a foreign language pages 19-26.

Features, pages 13, 30.

Michael Darcy on teacher induction schemes; Jill Turner on a Rudolf Steiner school; Gillian Thomas on a school for unwell children.

Foreign, page 10.

Italy: fewer staff will be needed; Austria: who is to blame for truancy? West Germany: cautious reception for new university entry.

Books, pages 17, 18, 27.

Robert Shields on child development; Michael Hurst on changing societies: art, politics, music, literature.

David Richardson on Roman Britain; Richard Ross on sport.

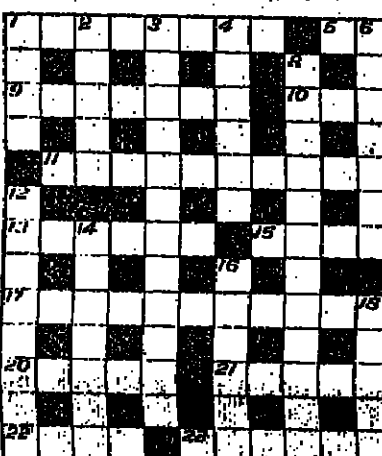
Education, page 25.

Peter Wynn on a poetry weekend; John Yule on Creative English in the classroom.

Acad reviews, pages 42, 43.

Anthony Harrell on dance; Robin Wood on cinema; John Peter on television; Christopher Gillin-Buile on theatre.

Crossword No 1,044



Across

1. Usual doll for Blackpool gathering? (8, 4).
2. Old time Liberal? (7).
3. Maid who happily played knock-knock with a liberated prisoner? (5).
4. How to record a leading score on the blackboard? (2, 1, 4).
5. See 1 down.

Down

1. Heavyweights not so concerned with 23 as possibly with short race? (4, 6).
2. Boy who persistently shook his head? (5).
3. Don't forget about the territory! (12).
4. Is returned with the loan on the quiet? (8).
5. A loan may show brevity? (7).
6. Follow up activity? (8).
7. Quality of Gollum's? (12).
8. One sly chap has energy for action? (8).
9. Instructing gull of drunken sailor? (7).
10. Now I am in the mood of a...? (6).
11. This morning is not a...? (6).
12. Run-a-foot was...? (4).
13. This morning is not a...? (6).

Maths teasers

1. A problem of ages. (i) Alfred is three years older than Brian, who is three years older than Charles. Find each boy's age, when Alfred's age in years is the square of Charles' age in years. (ii) If the problem had been that A is n years older than B, who is n years older than C, and A's age is the square of C's age, for what integral values of n is it possible to find the ages of A, B and C? (You may assume that A's age is an integer not greater than 100.) (iii) Show that for every possible value of n, B's age in years is a triangular number (of the form $\frac{1}{2}n(n+1)$).
2. Days, years and squares. (i) A boy born in 1904 discovered when in his teens that in 16 years' time the year would be a perfect square number. (a) How old was he then? (b) How old will he be when he made this discovery? (c) In what year will his age next be a perfect square?
3. (i) There are 365 days in a non-leap year. Show that 365 can be expressed as the sum of two squares in two different ways, and as the product of two prime numbers, each of which is the sum of two squares. (ii) In how many ways can the number of years in a leap year be expressed as the sum of three square numbers? (iii) What is the nearest number to 365 which can be expressed as the sum of two square numbers, and as the product of two prime numbers, each of which is the sum of two square numbers? (iv) What is the smallest square number that can be expressed as the sum of three different square numbers? (v) Show that the square of every multiple of 3 can be expressed as the sum of three square numbers.

Solution of Puzzle No. 1,043.

Across: 1. Usual doll for Blackpool gathering? (8, 4). 2. Old time Liberal? (7). 3. Maid who happily played knock-knock with a liberated prisoner? (5). 4. How to record a leading score on the blackboard? (2, 1, 4). 5. See 1 down.

Down: 1. Heavyweights not so concerned with 23 as possibly with short race? (4, 6). 2. Boy who persistently shook his head? (5). 3. Don't forget about the territory! (12). 4. Is returned with the loan on the quiet? (8). 5. A loan may show brevity? (7). 6. Follow up activity? (8). 7. Quality of Gollum's? (12). 8. One sly chap has energy for action? (8). 9. Instructing gull of drunken sailor? (7). 10. Now I am in the mood of a...? (6). 11. This morning is not a...? (6). 12. Run-a-foot was...? (4). 13. This morning is not a...? (6).

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An exercise in perception and awareness at this year's "Tate Games", an art and drama holiday activity for children at the Tate Gallery, London until August 29. Picture by Robin Laurance.

Mr Mulley come to judgment

One thing is clear after the House of Lords' decision on the Tameside case. The law is different from what most people in the education business thought it was. On the other hand, nobody can be quite sure yet exactly what it is until the full judgment is available in October.

The Court of Appeal decided that, if the Minister "is satisfied" that a local education authority or voluntary body is acting unreasonably, he can issue a direction but must be able subsequently to show the court that he has good grounds for being so satisfied. In the Tameside case, counsel for Mr Mulley had to detail the facts which, in his view, made the L.E.A.'s proposed course of action unreasonable. This extension of the role of the courts has coincided with a much greater extension of the desire of Ministers to intervene to have "policies" and the power to push them through—and therefore more risk of a conflict of rights which the courts exist to resolve.

The decision by the House of Lords must encourage further litigation in the future, and it must make the Department of Education and Science's legal advisers, who have burnt their fingers yet again, still more cautious in their view of the Secretary of State's powers. It must accentuate still more Mr Mulley's mistaken belief that if he only had more power he could make everything better.

It must have a bearing on the Bill now before Parliament, because the enforcement of the Act which is likely to emerge in the autumn depends on the Minister's general powers under the 1944 Act. But, here again, it would be wise to wait for the details of the House of Lords judgment. There is no suggestion that the law lords have repealed sections 68 and 99—it is not within their power to do so. Nor is there any suggestion that no Secretary of State of words which make some action by a

Minister depend on his being "satisfied" of something or other. Most of them were worded in this way with the intention of preventing the courts from going behind the Minister's discretionary judgment.

This has always been a pretty grey area. The courts consistently dislike any provision in the law which appears to lend itself to arbitrary or capricious action by Ministers, and what has happened in recent years is that they have increasingly applied general tests of fairness to Ministers in the exercise of these subjective judgments. This extension of the role of the courts has coincided with a much greater extension of the desire of Ministers to intervene to have "policies" and the power to push them through—and therefore more risk of a conflict of rights which the courts exist to resolve.

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can, in future, expect to bring an L.E.A. into line by issuing a direction—simply that if he seeks to do so the courts will want to be satisfied that the grounds of his action are sound.

It may be, of course, that Parliament will still want at some future date to give Ministers discretionary powers which do not have to be justified in court, and that the formulae used in section 68 will be amended in some way calculated to put Ministers' powers wholly beyond dispute. But this would raise an argument in general terms about the relationship between central and local government and statutory bodies, and between government and the individual.

Many people, whatever their view of the Tameside case, will think it no bad thing that when a Government department exercises a discretionary power to direct another elected body, it should be obliged to show that it acted reasonably and on a proper appraisal of the facts. A Minister who cannot persuade a bench of judges that he has reasonable grounds for action is unlikely to persuade a less sophisticated public either. The Tameside decision undoubtedly raises difficulties for the Minister, but since when has it been the job of the courts to make life smooth for Ministers?

No comment

Since few people approach this subject without emotion it was thought best to thrash it out with all concerned—Mr Jack Chadderton, director of education for Newcastle, on the decision to introduce a bigger dose of punishment wrap, quoted in the Newcastle Evening Chronicle.

The road to Scotland

The second White Paper on devolution which was published on Tuesday brings the stormy Parliamentary struggle over a devolution Bill one stage nearer. It still leaves a lot to be revealed later—most notably the proposals for English regional government, which the Government appears to believe to be a necessary corollary to a new deal for Scotland and Wales. Mr. Michael Foot repeated that an English White Paper will appear in due course, but not yet.

As Ministers wrestle with the real need to make changes which satisfy Scotland (and are not too unsatisfactory for Wales), the likelihood of replacing one set of grievances with another set, better articulated, grows with every intemperate glimpse of the future. The financial issue will be highlighted annually with acrimonious negotiations between Scotland and London about the block grant which is to finance the activities of the Scottish assembly.

In the first place, this will show that Scotland already gets a considerably higher per capita income from the United Kingdom purse than England; and just as the political pressure at every rate support grant negotiation between central and local government is to

persuade the central government to put more into the kitty and underwrite local overspending, so the same process will take place, inflamed by nationalist sentiments, between the Treasury in Whitehall and the Scots.

The Government has held to its view that Scottish universities should remain with those of England and Wales under the University Grants Committee. This accords with the prevailing sentiment in the Scottish university establishment. But to many Scots, the insensitive desire of their universities to remain inside the UGC is symptomatic of an attitude of looking over their shoulder to England which they want to end with devolution. And, of course, if the Scots wanted to take advantage of their more compact size and greater homogeneity to work out a new Scottish solution to the binary divide, they certainly could not do so if the Scottish universities could run headlong to London for protection.

Whether all of this is simply academic—because the Government will find it has no majority for a Bill along these lines—remains to be seen. What does become increasingly obvious is that devolution for Scotland could be as destructive an issue for Mr. Callaghan in his time as Home Secretary as it was for Mr. Gladstone, for

TUC curate's egg

There is much good sense in the TUC working party's report on the arts (page 7), but also much that is downright silly. The authors are, of course, right to emphasize the importance of day release and the adult education service, and to press for the implementation of the Russell report. They rightly express concern about the rundown of commercial theatre, and they argue with some appropriateness that those industries which make their profits from musicians and actors should contribute more to the training and general well-being of these professionals. They point to the integral part which all local authorities should play in fostering amateur arts, and they are very strong on arts in a "community" context.

But in other respects this wide-ranging report really should follow the lead given in economic matters, by increasing numbers of their colleagues, and come down to earth. If their demand that public spend-

ing on the arts should double in the next five years is a serious one, it is ridiculous. Life being as it is, there is always a public sector decently ignore, when kind, more immediate priorities—the plight of the health service, housing, public transport, any of which would probably make precise decisions in the opinion of most trade unionists. Similarly, it is hard to imagine local authorities leaping at the report's suggestion that they should halt the closure of cinemas by buying them.

For all their talk about the exclusion of "workers" (a term which has a depressingly exclusive ring) and "ordinary people" (as opposed to extraordinary people?) from the benefits of culture, the working party are, of course, compelled to now flourish in this country, and emphatically not just within an "elite" class. The situation could be still better, but it is really not that bad.

Letter to the Editor

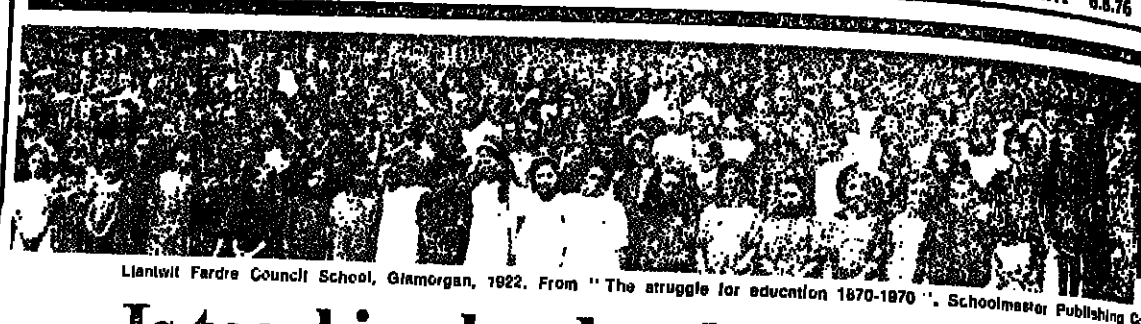
Jobs for the BAs

Sir:—Many T.E.S. readers who are interested in the selection and subsequent welfare of under-graduate students will have been concerned by a recent BBC *Tomorrow's Programme* on graduate unemployment. As the film was shot at my own university, and I was involved in the programme, it may be useful if I attempt to correct an impression that may have arisen that graduate unemployment is both widespread and demoralizing.

For the vast majority of students this is not the case. At Keele, as elsewhere, students find that in a difficult employment market, a degree not only offers a valuable entrée to a wide range of occupations that would be closed without it, but also an increasingly privileged position in the job market.

JOHN EGGLESTON
Keele University

More letters, page 11



Is teaching harder than it was?

Joyce Skinner

It might be expected that general unemployment and the post-hogwash pay scales would attract more candidates to teaching and that the reduction in the number of places would allow the training institutions to choose only the really able and well qualified. But this appears not to be so. By a curious chemistry, the number of "acceptable" candidates left in the clearing house pool in September each year remains about the same.

Indeed, in 1975 the target numbers for a college entry of 30,000 were not even reached and there are signs that there will be few to spare in 1976, even though the target numbers have been reduced to 20,000. A similar pattern exists for post-graduate courses.

The reasons for this state of affairs are complex and may involve many factors outside education altogether. There is evidence, however, that some of our best people are not attracted to teaching because they think it is too difficult and that it is (especially in secondary schools) and likely to become even more so.

A recent paper presented to ACSTT, the committee which advises the Education Secretary on the supply and training of teachers, by some of the secondary teachers' associations, confirms this. Good, able, responsible, sensitive young people have doubts about their ability to cope with life in large institutions and fears of classroom violence and political confusion that surrounds the purposes of schooling and they sense a personal danger in the growing demand for such accountability in a time of such confusion.

Some of the same young people are attracted to social work, other forms of work with the young, even to careers in special education where those issues are far less sharply focused, where schools are smaller, staffing ratios and staff support more generous, and purposes reasonably clearly defined and publicly acceptable and where public opinion itself seems to be showing a compassionate concern for individuals with a visible and measurable handicap.

Public opinion, however, does not appear to be sympathetic to those whose professional concern for the visible or measurable handicap is indeed the genuine thing, and who have little understanding of the skill and nervous energy exacted by such concern.

Are these young people right in supposing that teaching is more difficult than it used to be? Are we in fact making more demands on our teachers now than we have ever done before? A superficial reading of social history suggests we are not. If I reflect on my 30 years in the education service, I am tempted to think that a teacher's lot in the 1970s is no more difficult than it was in the 1920s.

In my elementary school the usual class size was 40 to 50, there were scarce, classes contained a wide range of ability and a fairly broad range of social and economic background which included children of controllable lower middle class families, skilled manual workers, undernourished, timid and the intemperate dwellers of the outskirts, slum and the occasional gypsy or circus family. The school itself was dark, few classes were separate, staff room and lavatories were inadequate.

Further back into the last century, Chuter Ede, in his first year of teaching, was coping with a class of 83. In the 1860s demands were being made on teachers by both the British and the manufacturing and the local social assumptions.

towns and the sharp-witted street arabs of the city slums. Key-Shuttleworth vividly described both kinds being "nervous in schools" into the schools and quotes from his long personal experience of the task faced by teachers in having to "civilize and Christianize" them. By comparison the task of the modern teacher seems modest. And yet despite new buildings, better equipment, smaller classes, improvements in cleanliness and diet and the virtual end of the crudest forms of physical poverty (there were still a few children at my school without shoes when I was a child), ever was such a difficult as it is to 20,000. A similar pattern exists for post-graduate courses.

The demands we make on the teaching profession increase every year. Educational demand feeds upon educational provision. Improved and widespread education raises expectations in one generation that are satisfied by further and better education for the next. Parents who get a taste for basic education demand longer years of schooling and a broader curriculum for their children. The broader curriculum reflects the expansion and differentiation of knowledge that accompanies rapid social and technological change.

Teachers in fact have to know more because there is more to be known. They also have to know more about the children themselves, absorb knowledge every day through the media. Teacher can no longer exercise control through possessing a superior body of knowledge, nor can he survive without making strenuous and continuous efforts to keep up to date. Every year the teacher acquires through his own early learning and his initial training becomes more and more of a date, not only in terms of knowledge but also in attitudes and techniques. Some of the problems of the large urban selective secondary schools lie in the fact that since all who teach in them came through selective small schools.

Speed of social and technological change affects not only the teacher's resources but also the demands made upon him. It is the school system, and increasingly only the school system, that has to integrate our children into a complex, highly urbanized, plural society. A century ago, isolation, couched in Key-Shuttleworth's terms of "civilizing" and "Christianizing", was shared between school, church, a rigid social establishment and an easily identifiable local community.

Force was expected to make it possible for children to live in an increasingly stressful and challenging environment without the effective support of the family. In our day it is often also expected to do it without the effective support of the church in moral and religious education, without the effective support of the local community in social education and often without the effective support of the family in either.

For example, the small nuclear family, working mothers and high birth rates require infant teachers to even to primary and secondary education to provide elementary education in personal relationships. The violence and boredom of the concrete jungle require teachers at all levels to inculcate moral standards usually without support from either parents or the local community because much on the and the local community can hardly be said to exist.

This stress and challenge is compounded by geographical and social mobility. In a slower society, teachers tended to be locally recruited and locally trained and tended to have less difficulty in communicating with local children, because they understood the local language and the local social assumptions.

The mobility of the teacher creates problems for him as a teacher, not just within the country, but across the world, creates problems for everyone—in terms of language, social custom and educational tradition. Inherent in the whole educational system is a problem of social mobility. The teaching profession is a major agent of social mobility. It is a major means of recruiting into the professional bourgeoisie and hence tends to be a somewhat self-consciously middle-class profession expected and expecting to be middle-class. Recent work on language has uncovered what has been in the classroom by the existence of the profession. Can teachers be so highly educated for the job? It is interesting that the nineteenth century clergy and squirearchy certainly thought so.

The job of the teacher has never been easy, but rapid social and technological change appear to make it more difficult as more is expected of the school system and the teacher himself is fast becoming the major battleground for the conflicting values of an open and plural society. There have been skirmishes in the past but open warfare in the school system has not been avoided largely by creating separate schools for separate ideologies and for separate class interests.

As long as conflicts over human systems, whether denominational or class-based, the individual teacher was protected by the system in which he worked and with which he identified. He was rarely subjected to the stresses of open conflict in the very arena where cultural and political values can be (and often are) in open conflict. This was particularly true in the secondary school, where the teacher both knowledge of the world and sympathetic insight into the problem of young people above all demands of him self-knowledge, self-acceptance and confidence of a high order.

The present level of public investment in the creation of a common school system at both primary and secondary level is already rising in an increasingly inflamed atmosphere, public conflict and debate about what schools are for and whom the teachers are responsible. The Tyndale Inquiry raised all the issues of accountability and the individual teacher exposed and vulnerable in the crossfire between pressure groups and rival ideologies. In an open and plural society, more over, half a million teachers will hold conflicting convictions and belong to rival pressure groups; they themselves will be at the centre of the great debate and in an open society cannot be expected to be of one mind.

This alone requires us to scrutinize very carefully any proposals to limit unduly public investment in the further training and in-service education of teachers. Teachers need the opportunity to reflect upon their experience and prepare themselves for a proper accountability. When there is added to this the changing school system and a curriculum that is growing after means as well as relevant skills, the case for a high level of teacher training, an appropriate programme, and at least the White Paper provision for in-service education seems overwhelming.

If in the future there is to be less investment in education than at present, it must be expected that in the profession might be more precise and for looking for a more precise and role and function of the school than that which both the government and the public seem to require.

Work schemes to aid 60,000 jobless teenagers

by Philip Venning

About 60,000 unemployed teenagers should benefit from the latest batch of emergency measures announced by Mr. Albert Booth, the Employment Secretary, in the House of Commons on Tuesday.

The measures, as foreshadowed in the DES's annual work experience scheme, an increase in training places, and a doubling of the special subsidy to employers taking on extra young people.

A controversial scheme to encourage older workers to retire early and give up their jobs to young people is still under urgent consideration.

Before announcing the new measures Mr. Booth repeated the advice given by Mr. Fred Mulley, the Education Secretary, that young people would do better to stay on at school or go back to college if they had already left full-time education.

Details of the work experience scheme, which will give young people a taste of the world of work, are still being sorted out by the Ministry of Services Commission, but the Government is confident that it should be in operation next month.

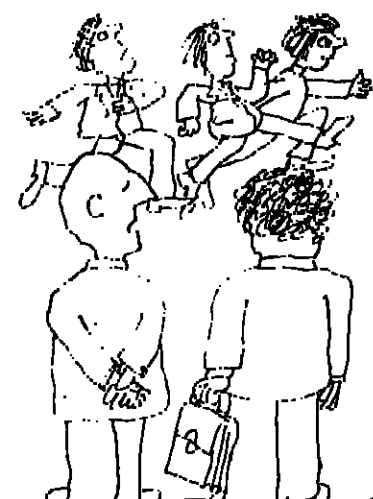
The Confederation of British Industry and the Trades Union Congress have agreed in principle to the scheme, under which employers will offer work experience and some training rather than actual jobs.

The firms will not pay wages. The young people will be paid supplementary benefits plus an amount necessary to bring their income up to the level of the Training Services Agency's training allowances. It will be open to all aged 16 to 18 and about 30,000 are expected eventually to take part. The launch of the scheme will be fixed. Mr. Booth said they would design down a list of six months. The legal position of the young—whether they are officially workers or not—has also still to be settled.

Asked about the kind of work experience he hoped firms would offer, Mr. Booth said the scheme was giving the young people would move from one department to another, in an engineering firm, for example, a young person might visit the foundry, the machine shop, the assembly shop, the stores, and parts of the technical and design departments. He might also attend lectures on industrial health and safety.

"It would be essential to ensure that projects did not in any way damage normal recruitment of trainees. Employers would be required to give an undertaking to this effect and their proposals would have to have the agreement of trade union representatives in their organizations."

The scheme is expected to cost £16m. About half of this should be



Olympic influence, nothing. They're being taught to class jobs.

offset by savings on unemployment and supplementary benefits.

In addition, the Government is to replace the special recruitment subsidy for school leavers with a new youth employment subsidy of £10 a week paid, for up to six months, to employers taking on young people under 20. The old subsidy of £5 was paid on behalf of 29,000 school leavers. It runs out next month.

The new measure, costing about £5.4m, is likely to help a further 29,000 teenagers—this time not restricted to school leavers.

The third measure will be an increase of 3,000 in the special training places offered by the TSA at government "skillcentres" on short preparatory training courses. This will cost about £2m and will be met from existing budgets.

To help cover the cost of the new package the Government has applied for help from the European Social Fund which the DES is giving the young people would move from one department to another, in an engineering firm, for example, a young person might visit the foundry, the machine shop, the assembly shop, the stores, and parts of the technical and design departments. He might also attend lectures on industrial health and safety.

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Student teachers: one in five wastage rate, says DES

One out of every five students starting a teacher training course next year is not expected to qualify. The DES has told colleges of education what their intake should be in 1977 and what their output should be three or four years later.

A 20 per cent fall in wastage has been set compared with previous years. The DES says it has now become necessary to regulate the supply of teachers by limiting the college outputs. The new move to control the number of young teachers starting has been caused by the introduction of a new system of education, which allows students to postpone a decision to enter teaching until the end of their second year at college.

The Department says: "As a commitment to teaching as a career to be deferred, it is increasingly necessary to regulate the supply of trained teachers by limiting college outputs. Each institution is therefore given a target output of students related to its admissions figures."

But the targets will be important in those colleges which run diploma courses and allow transfer to other courses. They might have to say to some students that they cannot switch to teacher training because the numbers have already been filled.

The Department released the figures this week shortly before Mr. Alan Booth, the Liberal Party spokesman on education, was due to table a parliamentary question asking for them to be published. Mr. Booth had earlier asked for a summary of the cuts proposed for each training college and received a reply which just listed the colleges and their entry targets for September next year.

The Advisory Committee on Supply and Training of Teachers will consider a Departmental paper in October suggesting a total of 37,000 training places by 1981. The figures do not mean that colleges will deliberately fail to

Government refuse to hive off universities

Scottish and Welsh universities are to remain national institutions. Responsibility for them will not be devolved to the proposed Scottish and Welsh assemblies, the Government announced this week.

In a reworked package of devolution proposals, the Government said there had been wide comment on future responsibility for universities. "Opinion is sharply divided; but no factors have emerged which the Government did not take into account in reaching the conclusion that responsibility should not be devolved."

Pressure had been brought by the Scottish Labour Party and the Scottish National Party for local control of universities. The Government has succeeded, however, that the University Grants Committee will be modified "to underline the continuing need to take thorough account of the distinctive Scottish education system outside the university sector, as well as of the distinctive features of the Scottish universities themselves."

The Government will also take account of the views of the Scottish administration when making appointments to the committee, which will contain Scottish advisers.

A council for higher education in Scotland is proposed as a forum "for the discussion of problems affecting the future development of all parts of the post-school system, including relationships with the schools."

The Scottish National Party attacked the university proposals as "cowardice" in the face of academic elitism. Welsh universities will not be controlled by the Welsh assembly either. Similar plans are proposed for a council and Welsh membership of the UGC.

The Vice-Chancellors Committee and the Association of University Teachers were opposed to the splitting up of Scottish and Welsh higher education. Mr. Laurie Sugden, general secretary of the A.U.T., said this week: "We are glad to see that the universities have not been used as political footballs as we first feared."

£65m more on wages bill

The Chancellor of the Exchequer's 2 per cent increase in the employers' share of National Insurance contributions will add £65m to education authorities' wages bills, it was announced last week.

Mr. Fred Mulley, the Education Secretary, told Mr. Andrew Wise, Labour MP for Coventry, South-west, that the rise, announced by Mr. Denis Healey two weeks ago, would add £7m to the labour cost of the education service. The £65m was expenditure by local authorities in England and Wales.

Mr. Wise also wanted to know where the money would be found. Mr. Mulley said it would come from the general rate funds of local authorities, to which the Exchequer contributed through the rate support grant.

250 jobs to go in the DES

Cuts in the number of civil servants employed in Whitehall will mean the loss of 250 jobs in the Department of Education, mainly in branches which deal with schools, further and higher education, statistics and museums. The department employs 4,000.

Mr. Charles Morris, Minister of State for the Civil Service Department, last week announced cuts of £95m in 1978-79. Education's share would be £12m, he said.

Talks are going on to decide if natural wastage will deal with the cutback. A spokesman for the department said she did not know other grades of staff would be affected.

Lord Thomson

Lord Thomson of Fleet, chairman of the Thomson Organisation of which Times Newspapers Limited is a part, died on Wednesday at the age of 82.

Report gives little hope to young homeless

by Frances Stadlen

A new government report on the young homeless is not worth the paper it is printed on, says a pressure group for the homeless.

Produced by a working party from the Department of Health and Social Security, the report has involved six government departments and taken a year to produce. Its aim is to suggest a way of avoiding the scandals and misery exposed in the Yorkshire Television documentary, *Johnny Go Home*, but admits there is no money to put it into practice.

A spokesman for the Campaign for the Homeless and Rootless said this week that they supported the report's recommendations. However, it was "now clear that the Government had no intention of doing anything except delay the issue and give the public a chance to forget all about it."

MPs in CHAR's all-party parliamentary group on the young homeless will call for a debate when Parliament resumes. They would like to see the recommendations treated as a circular from the department of Health and Social Security, Education and Science and the Environment.

The report calls for more cooperation between government departments, local authorities and the social services. They should form committees to coordinate their efforts.

There should be more housing for single people and it should be easier to take tenants. Special hostels offering temporary and medium-term shelter should be built and local authorities should share the cost.

Booths giving advice and accommodation and jobs should be set up at mainline stations. The same sort of advice should also be available from social security offices and citizens' advice bureaux.

The report calls for tougher checks on those who want to work with young people. Their credentials should be vetted by a senior official in each local authority.

Schools should also play a more important part. They should prepare pupils for the difficulties they were likely to face if they left home. Teachers should be given enough training to enable them to give this advice.

The careers service should be better publicized as young people know they can use it in their home areas and after leaving home. An essential back-up to this was more coordination between Government and local authorities on jobs and housing.

The report says the youth service has an important contribution to make with unskilled, unconfident and unconvincing young people. It also wants more training for unskilled teenagers, like the courses on vocational preparation run by the Training Services Agency and the DES.

Although they form a minority of the young homeless, girls are particularly vulnerable when they leave home and have no job. Boys that they will get pregnant makes most hostels treat them more strictly than boys.

Girls often prefer to try their luck on the streets rather than be locked up in a hostel. Family counselling and more informal advisory centres should think of ways to reach these girls.

Another vulnerable category is young people from ethnic minorities. They are more likely to be a problem in their home towns as fewer of them move away. Youth workers should be given special training to understand their different outlooks, fears and aims and more of them should be recruited from ethnic minorities.

Report of the Working Group on Homeless Young People, DISS, Alexander Fleming House, London S.E.1.

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Tameside: Mr Mulley bows to the law lords' decision

Conservative backbenchers laughed when Mr Fred Mulley, Secretary of State for Education and Science, said in the Commons on Tuesday that his first concern throughout the Tameside affair had been the educational welfare of the children. Making after the House of Lords decision, Mr Mulley was warmly cheered by Labour MPs when he said: "I trust that all the parties involved will make their first priority in the future."

Reactions were reversed when Mr Norman St John-Stevas, chief Opposition spokesman on education (Chelmsford, C) who had sought the statement from the Education Secretary, said that now that the legal issues in the Tameside case had been finally and somewhat expensively decided, would the Minister agree that what was important was the education of the children? Apart from this, most common occurred when Mr Christopher Price (Lewisham, West, Lab) argued that the law lords were usurping the power of Parliament.

In his statement Mr Mulley said: "I explained to the House on June 11 my view of the arrangements proposed by Tameside, and on that day I issued my direction to the authority to go ahead with the original approved scheme for secondary education in September. The House of Lords has now given its ruling on the legality of that direction and I accept, without any reservations whatsoever, that decision from the highest court of law in the land."

"The effect of the Lords' decision is that my direction of June 11 no longer stands; Tameside is therefore under a legal obligation to implement the proposals which I approved last November. It is for Tameside to decide what now has to be done to achieve the most orderly possible start to the new school year in September, having regard to all the circumstances."

My first concern throughout has been the educational welfare of the children taught up in the school and I trust that all the parties involved will make that their first priority in the future. I do not think that any further comment

from me would be appropriate at this stage. Mr St John-Stevas asked Mr Mulley if he would try to persuade those teachers who were in conflict with the council to forget the past and do their best to make the selection procedure a success?

Would the Education Secretary place the resources of his department at the service of the council to make this selection successful? Would he abandon his ideological pre-possessions and act, as was his duty as Secretary of State, to safeguard the educational interests of the children?

Mr Mulley replied it was not only a matter of putting the educational interests of the children first now. It had been very much in his mind on June 11.

"One thing that has been common in all the legal decisions, and I made that clear in the House, is that this is not a dispute as to whether comprehensive education is right. It is on the arrangements proposed and the authority's decision to implement them that the dispute lies. I would imagine now that if resolve their differences, it is essentially a matter for the parties concerned. My department as always is ready to give what assistance it can and is requested to give, to any duties. I offered to have talks with the Tameside authority early in May when these difficulties arose but for reasons I accept they were unwilling to do so."

Mr Price said the way the judges interpreted the law this year was wholly different from the interpretation put by Lord Simon, then Lord Chancellor, when introducing section 58 of the Education Act in the Lords in 1944.

"Would Mr Mulley agree that in acting in this way—in widening the law in this way—the law lords are usurping the power of Parliament?" Would the Minister support the Bill that Mr Price would be introducing for its first reading

that day to put the law back to the state it was in when the Education Act was introduced in 1944?

Mr Mulley considered it would be wrong for him to comment on the reasons for the decision in the House of Lords because they had not got them yet. It might be a considerable time before the judgment of the House of Lords was made available. He would study Mr Price's Bill with great interest.

Mr Ian Gow (Eastbourne, C) said that since it was the unanimous view of the Court of Appeal and the House of Lords that the Secretary of State had misdirected himself in this matter and that his own affidavit was less than frank, would it not be more honourable for Mr Mulley to resign?

Since the Minister appealed to the Lords against the advice of his own legal advisers, ought he not to pay the costs of the appeal rather than the taxpayers?

Mr Mulley said Mr Gow would be more convincing if he checked the facts on which he relied before making such sweeping allegations. "Not only did I not make an affidavit—it is not the practice for ministers of the Crown to do so—I made it clear to those asking for Tameside that if they wished it was available for cross-examination in this matter."



Mr Geoffrey Dodsworth (South-West Hertfordshire, C) asked how many parents would be unable to send their children to the comprehensive school of their first choice in the next school year.

Mr Dodsworth said parents in his constituency were concerned because of their failure to get their children in the comprehensive they wanted. Parents had less influence on school choice. Would she make what Westford Grammar School was restored to its proper place in the educational system?

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Reports by Alan Wood

TUC want wider audience for arts

by Bob Doe

Trade unionists want the Government to double its spending on the arts to overcome what they call "cultural inequality" in the country. A new separate ministry should be set up to run the arts.

The demand is made in a report this week from a TUC working party. It suggests the arts could be made more popular by taking theatres, music, exhibitions and mobile bookshops into workplaces, canteens, schools and housing estates.

The report, a consultative document, says the widest possible range of leisure time arts and cultural activities should be made accessible to millions of people with different tastes. This would not only enrich their lives but stimulate the arts as well.

The working party does not think there is a distinctive type of "workers' arts". However it says artists should give special consideration to the needs and interests of workers and their families in the content and style of their work.

Education, both at school and afterwards, had a part to play in this polarization. In primary schools the arts were an integral part of the curriculum. "However, at the latter end of the secondary school the approach to the arts is somewhat different and disappointing."

"Secondary schools must do all they can to give pupils an insight into the importance of artistic activities in the individual and in society as a whole. They can play a vital part in raising the general level of artistic awareness and helping to eliminate cultural inequality."

"Schools have a direct responsibility to open to all young people the prospect of a life of creative

leisure, particularly at a time when the substantial influence of broadcasting means that there are more opportunities than ever before for young people to be rendered utterly passive in cultural matters by the all-pervasive influence of the media."

They must spend more time and money on the arts. This went against the trend in education cuts in which the arts tended to be regarded as "frills". Cuts in part-time staffing affected music and art particularly badly as many part-timers were practising artists.

Day-release for all young workers and the implementation of the modest proposals of the Russell report on adult education would also help to develop popular interest in the arts.

The arts needed an "upgrading in social significance" similar to that given to education after the 1944 Education Act. Education spending had grown from 1.7 per cent of the gross national product to about 7 per cent now. The Government should give a commitment to double, in real terms, their spending on the arts over the next five years. This year it was approximately £77m.

The new department would be directed by a Minister of cabinet rank. He would have the power and authority to give grants to those local authorities which implemented a popular arts policy. These activities would include supporting amateur activities, providing premises, subsidizing theatres and taking over cinemas if necessary to keep them open, all of which fostered the cultural life of the community.

TUC Working Party Report on the Arts. TUC Congress House, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS. 50p.

Parents protest as grammar school places are withdrawn

Berkshire parents have appealed to the Department of Education and Science over a decision that will prevent their sons from going to a grammar school although they passed the 11-plus.

The school, Windsor Grammar, has room for all 120 boys who wish places, but the county education committee has decided to limit entry to 90.

The parents, who live in parts of Berkshire which have been reorganised on comprehensive lines, were told some time ago that their sons could take the 11-plus and try for places. They were warned, however, that they would have to pay for any extra transport. But those who qualified were then told that there was no room for all, only room at the school for Windsor boys.

Some parents appealed, but were turned down by the education committee. Mr R. J. Hornsby, the chief education officer, said this week that the committee had decided to limit the school to a three-form entry. Therefore only 90 of the 120 boys who qualified would get places.

Mr G. S. Parker, the head, said that although there will be room for 120 boys in September, he has been told to expect 85. Whenever the number sent they have been limited and will be taught in four forms. In the past they have been allowed to take a four-form entry although staffed for only a three-form entry.

There was no single reason, he said, for turning down the parents' appeals. The committee had considered several things, including the number of classrooms; that after reorganization (in 1977) the school would rise to almost double in 1979, equalising the number of the boys' grammar schools, staffing ratios, the implications for staffing in other pupil numbers and the need to allocate complete timetables and plans.

Another point, not specifically related to Windsor Grammar School, was that staff salaries, depend on pupil numbers. There has to be an orderly arrangement for determining them.

Although the parents are still pursuing the matter more or less

independently, about 15 of them met at the school recently. Some suggested legal action or a protest at the start of next term if they do not get satisfaction.

Mr Nicholas Walter, from Maidenhead, said: "I am not against comprehensive education though I do genuinely believe my son would do better in a grammar school. If I had been told in good faith that there was no room for him but accepted it, I would have regretted it."

Under the 1944 Education Act, I.e.s.s. have to work according to the general principle (Section 76) that "so far as is consistent with the provision of efficient instruction and training and the avoidance of unreasonable public expenditure, pupils are to be educated in accordance with the wishes of their parents."

If anyone thinks a I.e.s. is acting unreasonably, the Secretary of State (Section 68) and, if he agrees, he can order the I.e.s. to act differently.

Mr Beryl Daniel, another parent who has complained to the DES, wanted her son at Windsor because it was easier to get to than the comprehensive. He had been allocated.

"I prefer the style of Windsor Grammar School. I am not saying it is better or worse. I just prefer my son to go there. What put him through all this if there were no places?"

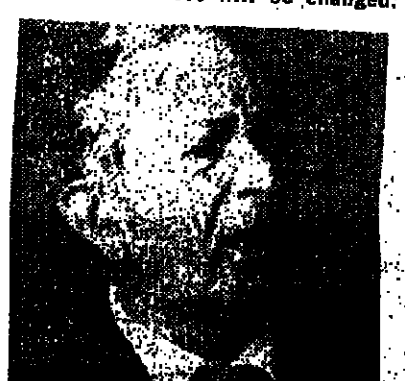
Mr Walter and Mrs Daniel said that the Berkshire education authority would not tell them why their appeals had been turned down. They complained of the high-handed attitude at County Hall.

There seems to be some confusion about why the committee decided to limit entry. Mr H. J. Benedictus, chairman of the schools sub-committee, said: "I just can't recall it. This week that it now looked as if there might be a few places at the school when heads were consulted in September. There would be allocated to pupils on the waiting list strictly according to the merits of their cases."

New Bill 'neither drastic nor draconian', peers told

The controversial Education Bill will begin its committee stage in the House of Lords on October 4. The Bill, which had its second reading in the Lords last week, will also be considered in detail on October 6 and 7, and to judge from speeches last week it will be heavily amended.

As is customary in the Lords, the Bill, like all Government measures, had an unopposed second reading—by deed rather than word. Several influential speakers connected with education were sharply critical and there seems little doubt that most clauses will be changed.



Donaldson: suggestions welcomed.

The Government may even have to introduce a guillotine to handle the Lords' amendments, when they return to the Commons.

Lord Donaldson of Kingsbridge, Minister of State for Education and Science, who is in charge of the Bill in the House of Lords, hoped that the Opposition would concentrate on the details of the Bill rather than making ideological points during the committee stage. The Government would consider carefully any suggestion which

peers might make for improving the effectiveness of the Bill.

Lord Donaldson pointed out that clauses two and three which would enable comprehensive reorganization to be pushed forward, were neither drastic nor draconian but were "essentially reasonable and slow-moving, allowing the widest discretion."

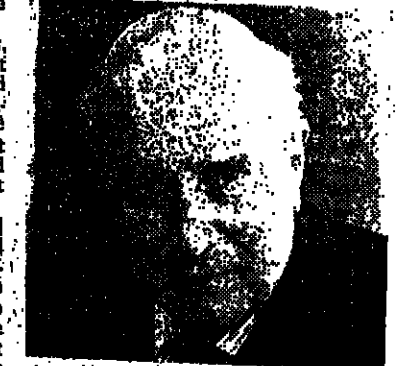
Lord Elton and Lord Belstead spoke for the Opposition. Lord Elton's comments against the general principle of the Bill were so strong that it is almost possible to envisage the Opposition inviting the Lords to throw out clause two. But that would, of course, invite direct confrontation with the Commons.

Lord Elton said schools should be subject to parents' influence. That influence was already too small. The Bill, by overriding the wishes of elected governors and sweeping away parental choice, had diminished it further. He hoped peers would agree to remedy this defect.

Parents should be able to change their children's schools. Very large numbers were not wanted, as comprehensive must be varied either in age-range or in subjects offered.

Lord Elton felt that to commit themselves irrevocably to a system whose effectiveness was in doubt would be irresponsible. That doubt should not be resolved and it should be for them.

Viccount Eccles (C) said that the quality of performance affected all schools was sheer deception to teach children otherwise.



Alexander: "betrayal".

Lord Alexander of Ffitchhill said the Bill was unnecessary because there was already broad agreement in the country of the need for comprehensive education. It would come naturally over time.

A new Education Act was needed to do what everybody was agreed upon: to provide full educational opportunity and training for all.

The Government should take this Bill away and bring in such an Act, Lord Amner (Ind) said. He supported the Bill for political reasons. More than a century ago a great British Prime Minister referred to Britain as a divided nation.

"I am not," he said, "a grammar school boy, but I want to know where the spread of ability was wider. The comprehensive school was doing more than mixing children."

He was teaching the clever boy from his own home how to get on with his fellow citizens.

with the maintenance of high educational standards and was outraged at what had happened at the Wilton Tyndale school. There was clear evidence of the betrayal of children.

The exorable Mr Brian Haddow was "nothing but a modern day Squeers. Squeers had assaulted his children and made their bodies black and blue but Mr Haddow had assaulted the minds of his pupils."

What was to be said of such loathsome self-righteousness where by a teacher sought to manipulate his children and to incite others by calling them scabs because they would not support his strike action?

Lord James of Rushmore said the number of teachers capable of teaching mathematics to an advanced level—say university entrance—was small and getting smaller. The number of children with the ability and inclination to learn the subject to that level was also small.

"What steps did the Government propose to take to ensure that children with high ability in, say, mathematics would receive the standard of teaching in unselected schools after the Bill had gone through as they did now in selected schools?"

Lord Valzev said that a major new Education Act was needed, and he hoped this Bill would be followed by one apportioning power and responsibility in education.

At the moment the secondary system was in chaos over curriculum, how to teach, exams, and all issues to that extremely tropy body, the Schools Council, was good enough. An attempt was needed to coordinate what was going on in secondary schools with the needs of industry, commerce and the professions.

A large part of what Sir William

Pile had called the secret garden of the curriculum, which was under the control of the teachers, ought not to be. It ought to be in the control of Parliament. A large part of what was nominally in the control of Parliament ought to be handed over to the local authorities.

When he wound up the debate for the Opposition, Lord Belstead, a former minister at the Department of Education and Science, said the tragedy was that the Bill was going to set the partners in the education service against each other, endlessly involved in litigation about what was supposed to be a service to children.

He said the cost of forcing 78 I.e.s.s. to reorganize or to complete reorganization would be considerable. The clauses on reorganization would certainly be discussed in the committee stage. He hoped that the Government would agree to an amendment to clause four to provide enough money to carry out the proposals.

The Opposition would certainly want to probe the meaning of the clause which provided that schools should not be "select either wholly or partly."

Lord Belstead said that a young linguist or a young mathematician or a young child prodigy should be given the opportunity to be educated in a smaller school, the Bill would have a great deal to answer for.

Several speakers had strong reservations about clause five which Lord Belstead described as a deliberate threat to I.e.s.s. taking pupils from their own schools. Lord Belstead said that clause five should go. Finally, Lord Belstead promised that the Opposition would do everything possible during the committee stage to remove the worst features of this legislation.

The party's over for education in the West—OECD spending report

The days of rapidly growing education spending are over throughout the western world, according to a report from the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The report is based on a study of public spending on education in the main industrial nations which make up the OECD. It shows that Britain spent rather more than most of its national output on education in the 1960s.

But overall education spending rose sharply during that period largely because of a big expansion of higher education everywhere, coupled with a higher rate of inflation in the education sector than in other parts of the economy.

Much of the increase had been justified on the grounds of its impact on economic growth or on social mobility. But the evidence for this relationship was inconclusive.

Apparent progress may have seemed slow if measured against the high expectations put on education not so long ago. But it is arguable that the effects of more education on both growth and social mobility can hardly be assessed, let alone measured in the short-run. Such effects may well take decades before they can be clearly established.

In the next decade education would find it harder to justify its claims as a social policy. These activities would include supporting amateur activities, providing premises, subsidizing theatres and taking over cinemas if necessary to keep them open, all of which fostered the cultural life of the community.

TUC Working Party Report on the Arts. TUC Congress House, Great Russell Street, London WC1B 3LS. 50p.

Countries compared		
Public spending on education as a percentage of gross domestic product.		
	Early 1960s	Early 1970s
Australia	3.4	4.5
Austria	3.1	4.2
Belgium	4.2	5.4
Canada	4.6	7.7
Denmark	4.0	7.0
Finland	6.2	6.1
Germany	3.0	4.2
Greece	1.7	2.3
Ireland	3.0	4.9
Italy	3.2	4.0
Japan	3.8	3.6
Netherlands	4.8	7.6
Norway	5.1	6.0
Portugal	1.9	1.9
Spain	1.2	2.4
Sweden	5.0	7.1
Switzerland	3.3	4.9
Turkey	2.3	3.5
United Kingdom	4.8	5.6
United States	4.5	6.0

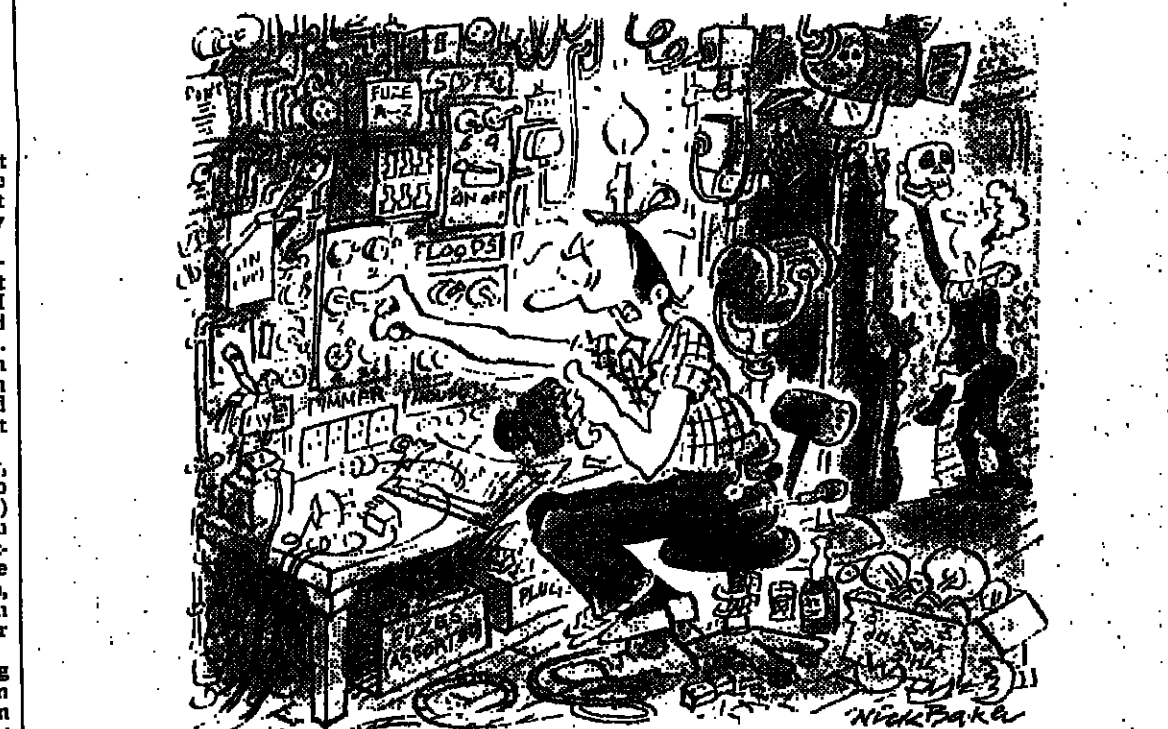
university year. In countries like Britain, which heavily subsidize student grants, a system of student loans would probably produce some savings. But there would be many disadvantages.

Savings could be better achieved by halting the trend towards smaller classes. But it is likely that such moves would encounter great resistance from teachers' unions, parents and students themselves, all of whom will probably continue to feel that closer contact with the teacher in small classes is preferable, even though there is little evidence that smaller classes improve academic performance."

Public Expenditure on Education July 1976. OECD Studies in Resource Allocation. RMSO £2.80.



A demonstration of hexagonal chess attracted the attention of this visitor to Lambeth Gala of Sport at Brockwell Park, South London.



Does your stage lighting leave you in the dark?

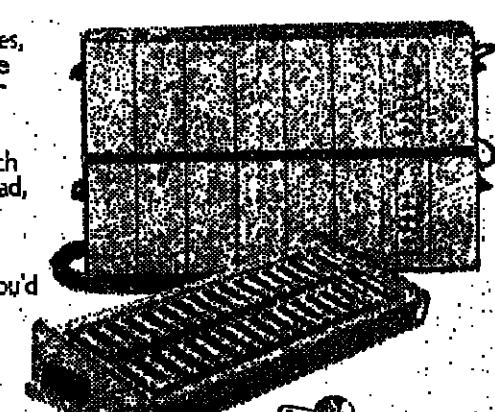
If your lighting is controlled from a confused jumble of wires, some chipped bakelite plugs and a worn out switchboard, the future could look fairly dim. But a Rank Strand Mini-2+ desk and dimmer system could soon brighten things up.

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Sorry sound of a culture clash in reading

girls from minority groups, already in "double jeopardy" from racism and sexism, were often further hampered by dialect, said Dr Suzanne Shaker, from Arizona, at the United Kingdom Reading Association conference in Durham last week.

The "cultural dissonance" between the girls and their reading material interfered with the educational process.

The answer, she told the conference, lay in bilingual education, with English as the second language, and in using the language-experience approach in getting the girls to write stories in their own idiom for each other to read.

Mrs Anne Williams, education officer for the Consumers Association, said that the Liverpool Trust, in Liverpool, had created a claims form for five kinds of welfare benefit with a reading age of seven-plus instead of the usual 17. She suggested a "presumptuous code of practice" for all consumer communications, involving greater awareness of specific audiences.

In a recent UNESCO survey, she said a Moroccan had defined being able to read as being in control of one's destiny. One way of

achieving this was through consumer education.

Dr Christopher Singleton said that dyslexia had never been given an unambiguous definition, and specific reading remediation, although precisely definable in terms of an achievement ratio, gave no practical help for remedial teaching.

He emphasized the social as well as educational implications of reading difficulty, but said teachers should be raising all children to an adequate functional level of performance or making sure that bright children did not remain average readers.

Mr James Ewing, of Dundee College of Education, said that in a survey of 100 eight to 16-year-olds with a reading age below 8, nearly half classed themselves as good readers. But when asked how much they enjoyed reading nearly two-thirds said they did not. The most common reasons for not enjoying it were embarrassment and fear of ridicule.

Classroom teachers, he said, saw their own reading as the most valuable source of professional knowledge.

Few parents returned questionnaires, perhaps because some of them were not literate.

Ruth Ainsworth, the children's author, said she never wrote for a specific child or age group. She had been able to read when she was four and could not remember being taught. Sid Chaplin and David Douglas remembered the encouragement of a grandfather and an uncle. Not one writer mentioned teaching methods or materials.

Dr John Chapman, of the Open University, said he had used a "happy families" technique to discover how children grouped pronouns. He found that "he" and "she" were more commonly linked than "he" and "him" right up to the age of 11. This showed a greater awareness of the pronouns' grammatical function than of its attributes.

Children between six and seven had been unable to fill in the missing pronouns in a passage taken from a reader, even though the deleted words were supplied in a list. The children tended to look forward instead of back for clues.

Cuts nearly put paid to youth science conference

About 100 of Britain's leading young scientists have been unable to attend this year's London International Youth Science Forum because of the education cuts.

Scottish local authorities appear to have been quickest to chop the grants which have financed them for 19 years. Strathclyde Council cancelled all its 40 places.

The conference, which is organized by the Council for International Contact and ends on Tuesday, has more foreign than British delegates. Twenty nations, including four communist countries, are represented. Last year there were 370 delegates, this time there are only 250.

Mr David Horburgh, assistant director of CIC, said they intended to make arrangements with the local authorities to get the numbers to normal for next year.

There was a question of cancelling the conference when we discovered the extent of the damage done by the cuts. But it was eventually decided that 250 was a workable number.

Most of those from abroad are financed either by their governments or by United Nations or Unesco grants. Some receive awards from large companies like Shell.

During the fortnight the young delegates have been attending seminars, hearing lectures from prominent scientists and visiting research and industrial establishments.

At the opening ceremony last week, Lord Ritchie Calder declared the "retreat from science by many talented young students who claim that science is misused." The DNA age was probably more dangerous than the nuclear age. "The nuclear age brought the atomic bomb, the consequences of which are still with us 32 years later. But now we can tamper with man. By manipulating a chemical code we can write prescriptions for the future of the race."

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A fault in town planning?

The tragic earthquake south-east of Peking last week raises once more the question how we should adapt to what is now known about the regions of the earth's surface in which earthquakes are most likely to occur.

In particular, it is sensible to allow great cities to develop in regions where earthquakes are inherently probable, in the hope that in due course it will be possible at least to predict and possibly even to control the release of seismic energy. Or would it be more prudent just to sterilize the high risk areas?

There now seems every chance that the damage done at the Chinese city of Tangshan will give this week's earthquake the unhappy distinction of being the most destructive of all natural phenomena of all time. In the old days, people could be excused for choosing to live in places where earthquakes were frequent, on the grounds that there was no clear understanding of why such places were more prone than others to seismic activity.

But at least since 1960 it has been clear that major earthquakes are invariably the consequences of the movement of the independent plates of which the earth's crust is composed. Should it then become a part of public policy that human settlements should be forbidden in well-defined seismic regions?

It is not a question for the seismologists but for those who specialize in risk analysis. And it is instructive to ask how arguments such as these are likely to apply in California, the state whose boundaries uniquely include the whole landward portion of the San Andreas fault which marks the line at which the floor of the Pacific, to which large parts of California are attached, is moving north relative to the mainland of the United States.

Two days before the earthquake, the New China News Agency was relaying a piece of news which, in its own way, is just as startling as the news of the earthquake.

According to the agency, a group of palaeoanthropologists in China have unearthed a fossil skull which is said to be a far-flung representative of the *Homo erectus* which is recognized in East Africa. So, plainly, if East Africa was indeed the site of human evolution, the long migration to China must have occurred at least 700,000 years ago.

The discovery which the Chinese now report is important, because it may push the time of this migration to a much earlier date. Everything will hang on the identification of the new fossil skull and on the verification of the age now attributed to it.

If further investigation shows that the age is correct and that the creature was a form of australopithecine, then it will be necessary to suppose that the migration to the site under way more than 1.5 million years ago. But since it is exceedingly improbable that the evolution of *Homo erectus* could have taken place independently at two quite different places, it will be necessary to ask whether then the palaeoanthropologists wrangling or decided ahead-of-time in this case, the prospect that Chinese and East African nationalism will add piquancy to the argument.

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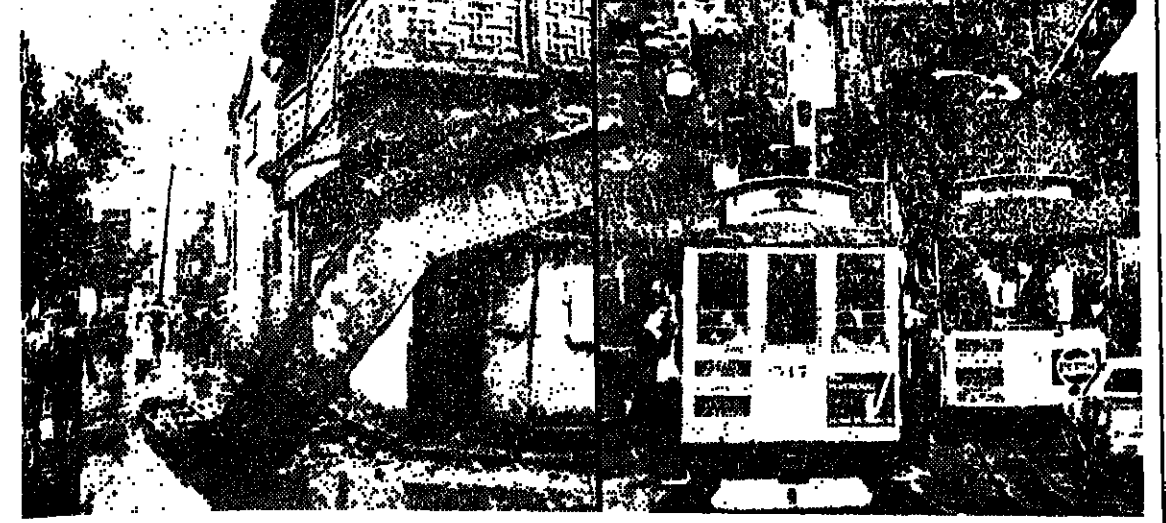
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Earthquake risk: Peking last week (left): odds on San Francisco soon.

Science diary

by John Maddox

For simplicity, assume that the San Andreas fault is 1,000 kilometres long, and that the centres of population most at risk are Los Angeles (with a population of 10 million) and San Francisco (with a population of five million). Nobody knows how frequently major earthquakes occur along the fault, but it seems not unreasonable to suppose that there will be one large earthquake (greater than, say, 7.0 on the Richter scale) every half century. And it may be not too wide of the mark to suppose that such an earthquake will kill five per cent of the people living within about 50 kilometres of the epicentre.

The assumptions are crude, I know, but what they imply is that the chance that one of the two cities will be affected by a major earthquake is something like one in 500 each year. The annual risk to the individual of being killed in an earthquake is one in 10,000. This is much higher than that occasioned by other natural phenomena and not very different from the risk of death among workers in the construction industry.

In other words, the risks calculated in this crude fashion are on the face of things great enough to give Californians pause, and to make them think it would be wiser to live somewhere else.

In reality, of course, it isn't like this. People are still flocking to California (and it must be acknowledged that there must be many people for whom the benefits of the weather far outweigh the seismic hazards). The explanation is the nature of the risk.

If the figures I have used are nearly correct, the implication is that an individual is likely to experience a major earthquake once every five centuries, or that there is a one in 10 chance that he will be exposed to such an earthquake during his lifetime. Even then the chance of escaping death is really quite high. It is understandable that individuals are not much influenced by the seismic risks.

Public authorities, on the other hand, ought to argue quite differently. A major earthquake within striking distance of one of the major Californian cities would create huge problems. Death tolls numbered in hundreds of thousands would be possible, and even if I have enormously overestimated the risk of such a catastrophe (which is almost certain), it is exceedingly hard to justify the way in which, at present, public administrations appear willing to live with such risks.

In spite of all that has been done in the past few decades to make Californian buildings partly proof against earthquakes, there is a case for using the mechanisms of urban planning for helping to make sure that large numbers of people are not too densely packed together. Fortunately, but for quite different reasons, that is how Los Angeles has actually developed. It is to be hoped that the Chinese will follow suit when they come to rebuild Tangshan.

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Schools Prom

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Monday 29 November Tuesday 30 November 1976

(Commences 7.30 p.m. (Doors open 7 p.m.))

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Tina Eaton and Miss Wendy Grant, physiotherapist at Saxon Wood.

Miniature aid for handicapped

Three Basingstoke sixth-formers have developed a tiny learning aid to teach body control to a six-year-old handicapped girl.

Malcolm Austin, Andrew Pierman and Michael Powers, of Queen Mary's College, Basingstoke, spent eight months of school and spare time finding a solution to the girl's coordination problems. Their answer was an electronic box of tricks consisting of minute viewing panels, flashing lights and a miniature aerial.

The handicapped girl, Tina Eaton, a pupil at Saxon Wood School, Basingstoke, has normal intellect, but lacks body control. The aid is designed to control the way she sits. It monitors all her movements and warns lights flash when her body tilts too much.

Miss Wendy Wood, senior physiotherapist at Saxon Wood, worked with the three sixth-formers. "Mine was really an admirable contribution. I illustrated their answer," she said.

The aid is tailor-made for one user, but it could be modified for other handicapped children. It is protected under a six-month general patent, until its inventors work out further possibilities of their design.

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Nurses £350 a year worse off

Nurses in London day schools for the physically handicapped have protested to the Department of Health and Social Security. Mr Alf Morris, Under-Secretary of State for the disabled, and the area health authorities about their low pay.

Mrs Marie Cameron, a nurse at Greenmead primary school, Putney, south-west London, has outlined to her seven colleagues in the other ILEA schools. The school heads, she claims, support their action.

Nurses in schools for the physically handicapped, she says, should be paid more than their colleagues in ordinary schools because they have greater responsibilities and more duties. Before the report of the Halsebury committee, which was set up in May 1974, to investigate nurses' pay and conditions, the Royal College of Nursing had recommended that they should have extra pay but this was turned down by the DHESS.

They were worse off since Halsebury because although school nurses are state registered with three years' training, they get the same rate of pay as a senior state-registered nurse who has two years' before Halsebury they got the same as a district nurse. This meant that they were off than if they were still on the basic rate for a state-registered nurse (£2,184 to £2,652; a district nurse £3,000 to £3,800).

The fund was set up last year to commemorate Mr Hewett, general secretary of the Association of Teachers in Colleges and Department of Education, and is intended to help students and young teachers travel abroad. Contributions should be sent to the fund care of Miss E. C. T aylor, NATPHE, Hamilton House, Mableton Place, London WC1R 9BH.

COURSES

ADVISORY CENTRE FOR EDUCATION announces preliminary details of THREE CHRISTMAS BREAK COURSES

19-22 December 1976 Fitzwilliam College, Cambridge LEADERSHIP IN THE PRIMARY AND MIDDLE SCHOOLS (Workshop Course)

Course Director: Leonard E. Watson, Head of Unit for In-Service Courses, Sheffield City Polytechnic.

19-22 December 1976 Churchill College, Cambridge THE COMPREHENSIVE SCHOOL: ORGANISATION AND RESPONSIBILITY (Lecture/Study Group Course)

Course Director: Michael Marland, Head of Woodberry Down School, London.

22 December-2 January 1977 MANAGEMENT AND EDUCATION TODAY (Workshop Course) Joint Course Directors: Cyril Ponder, Head of The Sheppey School, Isle of Sheppey, and Dick Ashman, Head of Edgcliffe Comprehensive School, Kilmor, Stourbridge, Worcs. Early application is advised for all these courses. Full details and application forms will be available during mid-September but initial enquiries can be made now to: Courses Officer, ADVISORY CENTRE FOR EDUCATION, 32 Trumpington Street, Cambridge CB2 1QY. Tel. (0223) 51456—Cambridge

Switch on to an O level in social studies

A new O level in social studies designed especially for adults and linked to a radio course will be offered by the Joint Matriculation Board next year.

The course, which is based on the BBC series *What Right Have you got?*, will introduce students to the rights and responsibilities of the individual in society. It is intended for adults turning or returning to study for perhaps the first time since leaving school. The exam will be called social studies (rights and responsibilities).

China lays claim to the first 'ape man'

Two days before the earthquake, the New China News Agency was relaying a piece of news which, in its own way, is just as startling as the news of the earthquake.

According to the agency, a group of palaeoanthropologists in China have unearthed a fossil skull which is said to be a far-flung representative of the *Homo erectus* which is recognized in East Africa. So, plainly, if East Africa was indeed the site of human evolution, the long migration to China must have occurred at least 700,000 years ago.

Italy

Survey forecasts fewer staff will be needed

from Dalbert Hallenstein

VERONA A significant drop in the number of new teachers required for 1977/78 has been predicted in a report by the Social Investment Study Centre (Censis).

The Censis report is based on a study of teacher/pupil ratios over the past six years. The Italian teacher/pupil ratio, on paper at least, is one of the lowest in West Europe. In the elementary schools it fell from one teacher to 21.5 pupils in 1969 to 1/19.9 in 1974. In the middle schools it dropped from 1/19.9 over the same period to 1/10.6, and in the upper secondary schools from 1/16.0 to 1/14.4.

But despite Italy's alleged low teacher/pupil ratio, classes are still overcrowded and average at least 25 pupils in a class; and, with special Government permission, classes of 30 or more pupils are not uncommon.

Teachers are therefore highly underpaid. The Censis report estimates that 13.6 per cent of middle school teachers teach for only 9.6 hours a week (official weekly time

table 24 hours), while 14.8 per cent of upper secondary teachers have a teaching load of only 12.4 hours a week (official timetable 18 hours a week), and about 12,000 teachers, while enjoying a full salary, have no teaching load at all.

This totally inefficient situation is the result of half-hearted bureaucratic reforms, insisted on by the unions, but not followed up by more general reforms promised by the Government.

In fact, it has been favoured by both the unions and the Government, since it has helped guarantee the maximum number of new teaching positions to Italy's increasingly jobless and restless young graduates. Between 1969 and 1974, 47,500 new teachers entered the profession.

But the Censis report suggests that super-saturation has now been reached, and that given the gravity of the Italian economic situation, no further increases in teaching staff.

The report therefore calculates that by 1977/78 at least 3,000 fewer teachers will be required annually in State schools.

Pay levels 'make no difference to achievement standards'

Low staff-student ratios, but not the level of teacher salaries as compared to those of other professions, are related to above average pupil achievement, according to a recent report by the Stockholm-based International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement.

While those countries with low ratios tended to have higher pupil ability, particularly in reading comprehension among 10 and 14-year-olds, pay levels showed no consistent relationship to achievement in any of the subjects tested in the association's 21-nation survey.

Other subjects were literature, science, civics and English and French as foreign languages. A survey of primary teachers' pay showed that in New Zealand it amounted to as much as 189 per

cent of average white collar earnings. In France—the second highest—it amounted to 157 per cent while in England it was 86 per cent and in Italy 67 per cent.

Three countries—Sweden, Finland and Federal Germany—paid primary and secondary teachers overall more than twice the average earnings of workers in manufacturing industries. In Scotland they were 120 per cent higher, while England was one of only five nations of 15 surveyed where salaries were lower—80 per cent.

An Empirical Comparative Study of Twenty One Educational Systems by A. Harry Passon, Harold R. Noh, Max A. Bakstein and John R. Muller, published by Almqvist and Wiksell International (Stockholm) and John Wiley and Sons.

South Africa

Soweto reopens—to boycott

JOHANNESBURG

Reversing an earlier 'security' ban on the opening of African schools after the mid-year holidays, the Government announced last month that pupils in areas like Soweto would again be allowed to attend.

Few children, however, turned up, with many teachers also stay-

ing away. Classrooms remained empty on the first two days after the reopening. It was not clear whether this was part of a concerted protest following the Soweto riots or the result of intimidation. As there is no compulsory schooling for Africans, pupils could not be legally forced to return.

Louis Flatz

Australia

'Dictatorial' attitudes blamed for truancy

from John Kirkaldy

Teachers and their attitudes towards their students are major causes of truancy, according to the most comprehensive study so far undertaken on the problem in Australia.

The study, authorized by the Commonwealth Government, was carried out by two Queensland University sociologists, Dr Paul Wilson and Mr John Braithwaite. They based their findings on a survey done in three schools in the Brisbane area.

Students with high levels of truancy were more likely than other students to think that teachers did not take enough interest in them, not to care what teachers thought of them, to think the standard of work expected was too high and to believe that teachers unfairly picked on them.

The report criticizes Australian teachers for being too dictatorial: "We consider many teachers adopt an arrogant, authoritarian and insensitive attitude towards many of their pupils which considerably affects the quality of truancy in many communities."

It emphasizes that conflict is inevitable in schools in a social structure where every effort is made to maintain the smoothness and ease of the dominating groups.

Despite these gloomy findings, the survey found the 823 per cent of children questioned said they were very happy or fairly happy at school.

Other causes of truancy included lack of parental interest, "irrelevant" curriculum and "unimaginative" teaching methods.

Truancy was found to reach a peak at grade 6 (the 13 to 14 age group). The very competitive nature of most schools was seen as another cause of truancy: poor academic performance who regarded themselves as failures had much higher rates of absenteeism.

There was little evidence to confirm the widely held belief that truancy was sometimes related to an authoritarian background in the home. The worst truancy offenders were often found to be those who had fewer control over the decisions affecting them.

The report says that the use of the cane is not a method that can be successfully used against truants. The fear of punishment has an effect on students but this, it believes, creates further antagonism towards school. "The culture of violence in our society, which we blame on the delinquents and unwashed students, may have its roots less in the gutter than in the respectable atmosphere of the headmaster's waiting room," it says.

India

Five-year hopes foundering

from A. S. Abraham

BOMBAY

In a mid-term appraisal of educational progress in India during the fifth five-year plan (April 1974 to March 1979), the standing committee of the Central Advisory Board of Education (CABE), the chief federal forum for shaping national education policy, has warned that unless remedial measures are urgently taken, the situation may be even worse by the time the plan ends than it was when it began.

The committee says that the execution of educational programmes has been "very adversely affected" by the drastic slashing of funds by the federal and provincial governments.

It feels that even the modest allocation for the entire five-year period of about a billion pounds sterling (at current rupee-sterling rates) provided in the draft fifth plan (the plan is set to be finalized) might ultimately be reduced by about one-third. The sum, it says, is "very different from that in the fourth plan."

West Germany

Easier entry plans meet with cautious reception

by David Dungworth

Chancellor Helmut Schmidt's call for the removal of entry restrictions in all faculties of higher education except medicine by 1977 (1978 June 18), echoed shortly afterwards by President Walter Scheel, has taken the country by surprise, as the previous trend had been towards extending the *numerus clausus*.

Individuals and organizations concerned have since been considering ways of implementing his proposal and the likely consequences of doing so.

Herr Schmidt has himself presented to the *Länder* prime ministers a seven-point plan drawn up by Herr Helmut Rohde, Federal Minister for Education and Science. It falls short of the Chancellor's original demand in retaining entry restrictions in dentistry, medicine, pharmacy, psychology and veterinary surgery.

If accepted, it will, however, mean a gradual increase of up to 25 per cent in the number of places in these subjects and the introduction of a temporary, "overloading quota" to facilitate access to other departments.

So far the only positive response has come from North-Rhine-Westphalia. The state parliament has approved additional expenditure of DM 33.3m (over £7m) for 1977, and DM 43.1m for 1978 as part of a 10-year programme to remove restrictions in all but the five hard-core *numerus clausus* subjects and architecture.

West Germany's advisory body on higher education, the *Wissenschaftsrat* (Arts and Science

Council), which preceded even Chancellor Schmidt in demanding the relaxation of the *numerus clausus*, claim that as an emergency measure places could be found temporarily for over a million students if the university building programme were expanded to accommodate a target of 850,000 instead of the present 750,000.

Further prerequisites would be additional funds to cover running costs and the introduction of a three-year "normal period of studies" for undergraduate courses outlined in the Framework Law for Universities, which became law in January. Financial limitations for the prospect of substantial terms for research would do more to encourage academic staff to take on extra teaching commitments than ministerial directives increasing their teaching loads.

The organizations representing university teachers, the West German Committee of Vice-Chancellors and the *Hochschulverband* (West Germany's AUT) have turned down the idea of a complete abolition of the *numerus clausus* while declaring themselves willing in principle to accept a temporary overloading quota.

They recognize that this may well last for about 15 years since the number of applications is not expected to reach its peak until 1985.

They also insist that opening up higher education on the scale envisaged can only result in a drop in standards and that the Government must be prepared to admit this fact.

Sweden

Adults flock to 'catch up' classes

from Mike Duckenfield

STOCKHOLM

A record of 116,400 over-18s studied secondary school courses in municipal adult classes during the academic year just ended, according to figures published by the Central Statistics Bureau. There was also a 14 per cent rise in enrolments for comprehensive school level courses.

While secondary enrolments rose by as much as 37 per cent for studies equivalent to the first three years of the two-year theoretical courses in economics, social studies and technology, trends at the comprehensive level were even more encouraging.

Among the 34,500 studying at the lower level there was a 50 per cent rise in the number of over-35s taking up studies for the first time. In contrast to today's youngsters, seven out of 10 of whom go on to take at least two more years of secondary study after nine years of compulsory schooling, a majority of over-35s have seven or fewer years of education.

Half of all adult students at the comprehensive level said they had taken up studies to gain the current school leaving qualifications equivalent to GCE O levels. These include examined competence in English, Swedish, mathematics, religion, knowledge, civics, history, geography, biology, physics and chemistry.

Municipal adult classes began to be subsidised by the Government in the autumn of 1968 and have shown a remarkable growth in the last eight years. However, the courses run by the 10 educational associations still cater for the majority of adult learners—more than 2.1m last year—though most of their courses are not geared to school curricula.

State subsidies for adult learning during the next school year include 177m Skr (£22.1m) for municipally-run classes, 443m Skr (£55.4m) for the educational associations, 181m Skr (£22.6m) for the folk schools and 59m Skr (£7.4m) for Swedish language classes for immigrants.

Tyndale

no pillorying without representation

Sir—You are too merciful of the Auld report. If judicial inquiries are to be fair, individuals who are put in the "dock" ought to have separate legal representation. Mr Hurvey Hinds and Mr Donald Rice ought not to have been pilloried in a public report without having first had their own counsel and solicitors to put their defence.

Their interests in the Tyndale inquiry were not identical with those of the education authority as a whole, and (although I make no criticism of the authority's legal advisers) it is questionable whether they were adequately represented at the hearings.

In particular the report ought to have contained an assessment of the hazards as well as the merits of the tough policy backed by disciplinary sanctions which Mr Hinds criticized for not adopting. How great was the risk that the Tyndale dispute might have spilled over into other schools? If there was such a risk, was it a proper matter for

Mr Hinds and the ILEA inspectors to take into account? The report does not answer these questions.

Mr Hinds has served with distinction for six years as chairman of the ILEA's Schools Subcommittee. In the course of those six years, and before the Tyndale case, he intervened effectively to settle disputes in a number of inner London's other 1,200 schools. The job is unsalaried. It will be difficult to replace him with anyone of equal talent and experience.

Nothing in the Auld report attributes any discreditable or self-regarding motive to him. Whether or not he resigned in the wake of the report was a matter for him. That he should have been hounded from office as if he were some sort of educational Richard Nixon is unjust and disgraceful.

ALEC GRANT, Members' Lobby, The County Hall, London, SE1.

CASE for state schooling

Sir—John Rae fortnightly has the hospitality of your paper to put the case for independent schools, and has even abused his time to attack Maurice Peston. CASE would welcome the opportunity to support Maurice Peston in putting the other point of view.

Academic standards in independent schools are high. That is what they are. The case for independent schools is not that they are better than state schools, but that they are different. They are different in their ethos, in their standards, in their methods, in their results, in their costs, in their accessibility, in their flexibility, in their responsiveness, in their ability to provide a high quality education for a small number of children.

Children are a valuable and shrinking resource whose potential for the education machine should be nurtured. They should be able to look forward to taking their places in society, contributing to the economic recovery of the country, and to the future of mankind.

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John Rae cannot point to the independent schools as the way forward. Their alumni are now running the country with little success. Equally, they could not possibly produce an adequate supply of people with scientific, technological and managerial skills.

State schools must do that job and be given the resources to do it. The DES, I.O.A.s and schools must openly discuss their objectives with teachers, parents and employers and come up with some plans and solutions.

ROS CULLINAN, National CASE Committee, 62 Camden News, London, NW1.

Going private is expediency

Sir—Madeline Munro's contention (July 23) that teachers who pay for private education for their children should be disqualified from work in the state sector raises a number of issues. The chief of these is the new limitation she would impose on our freedom—something that hard-line left-wingers seem increasingly keen on. But that is not my main concern here.

Ms Munro writes as though we were able to make the principled decisions about state and private: we are hardly so fortunate. State schools vary a lot in quality and organization; if one disapproves for whatever reason, of the handful in one's own area (and I.O.A.s' ill-considered procedures sometimes limit

one's choice even of these) then all one can do is to look around for such private schooling as is adequate, near enough, and within one's pocket. Sheer expediency, in fact; one does what one can.

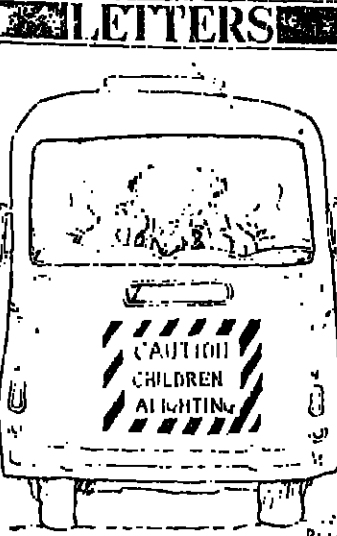
No one but a doctrinaire fool would sacrifice his children's education by deliberately sending them to an inferior school in order to support a political principle.

Incidentally, I do not need Maurice Peston, with his laudable opinion of human nature and his blinkered view of much that goes on in state schools, to explain my motives to me; some of us can still think and see for ourselves. HUMPHREY CLUCAS, 19 Norman Road, Sutton, Surrey.

Informal and structured

Sir—In view of the increasing confusion of informal with structured methods, and formal with structured, in current political pronouncements, I hope I may remark that I, like many less vociferous teachers, run very informal classes working highly structured learning programmes which generate a discipline of their own. Is such a concept too difficult or too inconceivable for those politicians who are driving Bennett's cart through our classrooms? PETER REMFORD, Head of Remedial Education, Bowthorpe School, Bowthorpe Road, Norwich.

LETTERS



Don't drive out mature students

Sir—Charging overseas students higher fees than most other countries has little to commend it at a time when the influence of the British heritage throughout the world appears to be declining. To add to the financial problems of mature students maintaining themselves at universities and colleges, often at great sacrifices to their families as well as to themselves, will undermine the concept of an education-oriented community in Britain.

The teenager who wishes to go on to higher education and, possibly, just drift from school to college is to be protected by the mandatory tuition fees from parental dependence; but an unprecedented obstacle is to be placed across the path of the mature student, whether he be financed from personal savings or by secondment on salary by an employer. The traumatic increase in fees for adult education classes not geared to any formal qualification is equally disastrous in terms of promoting an interest in education throughout the community.

It will be a grievous loss to many institutions if the mature student is driven out of them. The withdrawal of educational opportunities for adults is inevitably a step backward at a time when the rapidity of socio-economic changes and the pressure present better opportunities for advance towards education-oriented citizenship if government action were geared to promote it.

JAC I. WILLIAMS, Professor of education, University College of Wales, Aberystwyth.

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John Rae cannot point to the independent schools as the way forward. Their alumni are now running the country with little success. Equally, they could not possibly produce an adequate supply of people with scientific, technological and managerial skills.

State schools must do that job and be given the resources to do it. The DES, I.O.A.s and schools must openly discuss their objectives with teachers, parents and employers and come up with some plans and solutions.

ROS CULLINAN, National CASE Committee, 62 Camden News, London, NW1.

Quis custodiet ipsos custodes?

Sir—We, the undersigned, wish to convey our grave concern at the disruption in education which is presently occurring in certain areas of the county of Hampshire. School caretakers have, with the official support of the National Union of Public Employees, closed several schools in a series of one day strikes.

Neither is it implausible to foresee a situation in which the head's control of a school, his autonomy which is one of the greatest strengths and virtues of the English education system, would be seriously eroded by this insidious usurpation of his official rights and powers that his authority, effectiveness and professional status would be seriously diminished.

Our concern is not with the validity of the caretakers' cause but with the means by which they are pleading it. The NUPE served notice upon the local education authority that secondary schools would be closed, totally without notice. Caretakers then locked school gates—denying admittance to staff and pupils.

This action has put, or could put, at risk the moral and physically risk due to lack of supervision during the day of closure. Any such closure is an illegal act since it denies children a day of education statutorily demanded for them by act of parliament. The closures have denied to members of teachers' unions and associations, and the rest of the professional staff, the right to work.

In addition to the immediate effects of this action, we view with

THE TIMES EDUCATIONAL SUPPLEMENT 6.8.76

Maths in a muddle

Sir—The Royal Society and the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications have recently produced a report of their joint mathematical education committee under the title of "A survey of A level mathematics syllabuses". Their stated intention is to assist those who plan tertiary courses either in mathematics or in subjects which use mathematics, and there is no doubt that the publication will be of very real value to those who are concerned with students whose mathematical education has reached this stage.

The survey gives a list in broad terms of the topics which are contained in 18 GCE single subject A level syllabuses which are examined in 1976 and in 1977. Whether or not he resigned in the wake of the report was a matter for him. That he should have been hounded from office as if he were some sort of educational Richard Nixon is unjust and disgraceful.

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people, including the chairman of the IGC, who have responsibility for the further education of students in mathematics and its application.

A symptom of malaise, but one which has become a positive source of damage, is the wide acceptance of the ridiculous idea that there are two kinds of mathematics, "modern" and "traditional" and the acquiescence in this nonsense of many people who ought to know better. The truth is, of course, that virtually the whole of mathematics at this level was in common currency at the beginning of the century—and a lot of it known to the Greeks! Yet it still represents one of the greatest achievements of the human mind, and should be taught as such, with a decent humility, and without the need for incessant meddling and trivial modernization.

Perhaps there is a reluctance to accept the plain fact that the real work was finished long ago and that there is no more need to tinker with it than to rewrite Shakespeare or touch up Rembrandt in conformity with contemporary taste. If this is so, the matter for so much activity is obscure, but what is quite clear is that the interest of pupils (who have no defence) and of teachers (who have, if they only choose to use it) appears to play a very minor part.

The purpose of this letter is not to decry the genuine improvements which have been made (although these are neither as extensive or complete as is often supposed), but to suggest that there is a need for a firm definition of the requirements of mathematical education for able students at 18-plus. Although it is unfeasible to look for authoritative judgments about anything these days, it would be reassuring if such a task could be entrusted to bodies with some recognized professional competence. Perhaps the joint mathematical education committee of the Royal Society and the Institute of Mathematics and its Applications could be persuaded to do this.

U. R. PITT, Vice-Chancellor, Reading University.

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Secondary pupils are channelled to suit their schools

viewing pupils to choose subjects in a secondary school is meaningless because they are channelled into courses to suit the school, according to an article in the latest issue of the *British Journal of Sociology* by Mr Peter Woods, lecturer in education at the Open University.

Mr Woods studied subject choice in a secondary modern for over a year. He talked to all third year pupils, a quarter of their parents and some teachers.

For middle-class children choice was a positive affair, based on their likely jobs, ability and prospects. But for the bottom streams, mainly working-class children, choice was a matter of taking "the line of least resistance" offered by the school.

"Years of interactions, tests and examinations have taught them their place", Mr Woods says. They chose the non-examination courses because

they had been convinced that, as one put it, "I ain't no good at anything". They showed "massive vagueness and unawareness" about the whole process of choosing options, doing "the same as my sister because she was no good at anything either" or putting down subjects they were not interested in because "I 'ad to pick something, didn't I?"

"These were the children whose parents did not attend meetings where options were explained. As one teacher put it, 'They know this is not for them'."

The teachers arranged subjects according to the demands of various occupations and pushed pupils along the two broad channels that "allow for those who opt in and for those who opt out or are ruled out". They played down the part interest or liking should play in subject choice.

In brief

Limited access

Inequalities in education have not diminished and may well have increased, says report of the national conference on access to education.

Edited by Paul Fordham, director of the department of adult education at Southampton University, the report is entitled *Access to Continuing Education*. M. Quirke, Open University, Milton Keynes, MK7 6AA, £1. It considers the prospects for an extension of educational opportunity beyond the limits of present formal schooling and higher education, the obstacles in the way, the social factors implied by a movement towards continuing education, and the role of the media in breaking through barriers of time and place.

Ten years on

To celebrate the tenth anniversary of the Royal Charter the University of Surrey is arranging a List piano competition open to pianists of British nationality aged 30 or under (August 31 to September 4), a thanksgiving service in Holy Trinity Church, Guildford High Street (October 23) and a Town and Gown concert in Guildford Civic Hall (October 24).

Advisers from OU

The Open University is sending a three man team to Pakistan to advise on the development of a People's Open University. Professor Ralph Smith, former acting vice-chancellor and provost, will be planning at the Open University. Mr Joe Clinch, registrar and deputy secretary, and Mr Bill Prescott, senior lecturer in educational studies, will be in Pakistan for nine months.

Cup winners

Senior Head Secondary School have won the 1978 East Sussex Conservation Cup, the county's top annual award for schools involved in projects aimed at conserving and improving the environment. The school also gets a prize of £100.

Unwritten law

Many schools in Humber-side have no written rules, according to a consultative report on rules, uniform and discipline compiled by the county council education committee and circulated for comment to teachers' organizations, the divisional advisory sub-committee and schools. About 40 per cent of schools have no formal rules, it says.

Jobs for four

The Countryside Education Trust, based at Beaulieu, Hampshire, has received an £11,500 grant from the Manpower Services Commission as part of the commission's 75th Job Creation Programme. The grant will finance jobs for three teachers and a designer for 13 months.

Woodcraft Folk

The Woodcraft Folk have 15,000 members and not 1,500 as stated in last week's TES.

£10,000 for childminders

The Health Education Council has allocated £10,000 for distributing free copies of the book which will accompany the special BBC television series for childminders which starts in January.

Course for jobless leavers

An eight-week course to help unemployed school leavers to acquire sound basic knowledge of typing and maintenance is being undertaken by National Tyre Services Ltd, in conjunction with the Training Services Agency. The course will qualify for a City and Guilds certificate.

Writers on staff

The Greater London Arts Association has awarded three C. Day Lewis fellowships for writers (notable at London comprehensives). The schools and writers are: Aylesbury High School, Brent (John Sullivan); Rutherford School, St Marylebone (Tom Pickard); and Vauxhall Manor School, SW8 (Michael Rosen).

Brighter living

Trees, shrubs, bushes, conifers, hedges, climbers, other plants and bulbs are wanted to brighten the lives of the handicapped children at the Invalid Children's Aid Association's new school, Dunsmore House in Nottinghamshire, which stands on a ten-acre site. Gardeners and the public are asked to send or deliver their gifts to Mrs S. Naidoo, headmistress, Dunsmore House School, Helmsley Road, Rainworth, near Mansfield, Nottinghamshire.

Preserved

Concorde 002, the first British-built prototype of the supersonic airliner, is to be preserved by the Science Museum. It has been placed on display at the Fleet Air Arm Museum, Yeovilton.

Mother tongues

Yuvak Sangh (London) is organising a series of one day seminars on the teaching of mother tongues—Bengali, Urdu, Punjabi, Tamil, Hindi etc.—to the Asian Community. Details from: Jayanti Thakkar, organising secretary, Yuvak Sangh, 165 Muldon Road, London, NW5.

More guides

For the thirteenth successive year membership of the Girl Guides Association has broken all previous records to reach the overall total of 197,599, according to figures for the 1978 census. The increase of 17,779 members spans every section of the movement from Brownies to Rangers Guides and every region of the United Kingdom, from Ulster to London and South East England.

Men of Kent

Visitors to Leeds Castle, Maidstone, Kent, this month will be able to study a collection of letters and other documents which reflect the important part played by men from Kent in the America before and during the Revolution.

Sport

Strange creatures in white give Montreal a surprise

from Stanley Levenson

MONTREAL Some residents of Montreal, more accustomed to seeing basketball in their open spaces, were astonished last week to see a game of basketball in the city centre, on the eastern edge of the city.

The players were the British delegates to the International Youth Olympic Committee, the guest players included Dick Palmer, the deputy general secretary of the British Olympic Association, and Sandy Duncan, the former general secretary, who is the top official of the Commonwealth Commonwealth Federation. In the spirit of the camp it was a fun thing, a demonstration of our ancient game to be bewildered natives by strange creatures in white.

Parc La Fontaine is just a boundary from the Ecole Jeanne Mance, a large pre-university school which had been temporarily converted into a hostel for about 900 young people from 41 countries.

The small British contingent of eight girls and three men, all students who returned home early this week with the Olympic team, was led by Alan Roche, a senior lecturer at Carnegie School of Physical Education, Leeds Polytechnic, who is executive chairman of the British College of Sports Association.

The camp was intended to promote the Olympic spirit and international friendship. It seems to have done a better job than the Olympic

Village, where there were so many competitive tensions. The entrance to Jeanne Mance was a medley of coloured posters wishing welcome in dozens of languages and containing invitations to the many activities arranged by different national groups. The cricket match was one of these.

My guides to the school were Maureen Oddie, from the Isle of Man who studies at Crewe and Alsager College of Education, and Ian Burton, from Blackpool, who is at Carnegie. The school has five gyms, four of them in pairs which can be opened up into two huge areas. There seemed to be dozens of basketball nets. The group slept in dormitories, the girls sharing with the Philippines and Upper Volta and the men with the Ivory Coast. Apart from making their own fun, all could attend the various organised cultural activities during the games and have informal discussions. Every few days they received tickets for one of the Olympic events.

Several of the British group intend to write dissertations on their experiences. Many of the other national groups were composed of sportsmen and women who had just failed to make their Olympic teams.

The British approach was different. A three stage sorting out process was used to find 11 "ambassadors". First came recommendations from higher education

institutes to the British Students Sports Federation, which was asked by BOA to handle the arrangements. This produced 80 names. The essay on one of four themes.

Stage two reduced the number to 22, 15 women and seven men, before the 11 lucky envoys were chosen. There was some rivalry between the girls.

Ability to pay the expenses was ruled out as a factor from the start. The delegation's costs were met by the Olympic Association. It was money well spent. But each delegate had to find a modest £40 which, it was decided, went on buying a uniform—a rather natty blue safari suit.

In addition to Maureen Oddie and Ian Burton, the group consisted of Alison Manley (Avery Hill, London), one of our leading young pentathletes, Nine Felton (Surrey University), Lynne Stevenson (Essex University), Helen Adams (Newly Cross College, Durham), Helen Lyon (Lady Mabel College of Education), Alice Cookson and Claire Sharples (Im Marsh), Steve Drowery (Newcastle Polytechnic) and Chris Wilson (Trinity, Cambridge).

A similar camp is planned for the Moscow Games in 1980. There was a Soviet delegation to Jeanne Mance. The mix could be different next time with places being given to young people outside the educational world.

Rugby lion from Rugby

Mal Malik, 22-year-old Cambridge rugby blue and Warwickshire flanker, is expected to join Coventry from Rugby Lions as the next step towards an England cap.

Malik attended Dunsmore School for Boys, Rugby, after coming to England from Pakistan at the age of 13. He became the first Dunsmore boy to gain a varsity blue.

He learnt his rugby from Mr Wyn Morris, head of PE at Dunsmore and coach of Coventry and Warwickshire. Malik also represented the school at cricket, basketball and water polo.

Between leaving Dunsmore and going up to Cambridge last year to read law, he studied at Liverpool Polytechnic and the University of Manchester Institute of Science and Technology. During this period he played for Walsley and went on tours by Cambridge of Japan and the Continent.



'Make better use of those empty halls'

School halls, church halls, social clubs, works premises and youth centres should be used more for sport and recreation, says a report by the North West Sports Council this week.

The report is based on the findings of a study carried out at Atherstone, a town of about 20,000 population in the Metropolitan Borough of Wigan. The survey found that although a wide variety of sporting and recreational activities took place in Atherstone, these "non purpose built facilities" were not always fully used.

Most of the scope for extending the use of existing premises was in schools, particularly church schools, says the report. Far more information is needed about sport and recreation at the local level, and the use of local indoor facilities in particular. Local authorities should be encouraged to carry out their own studies of activities and facilities.

Mr H. S. Armitage, acting chairman of the council and vice-chairman of Greater Manchester Council Recreation and Amusements Committee, said: "It is vital in the present economic climate that the best use is made of all possible resources. The report will provide some guidance to local authorities and sports councils for positive action at a time when they may have little money to spend."

Copies of the full report are available free from: The North West Sports Council, Byrom House, Quay Street, Manchester, M3 5FJ.

'Kick-about' grants

The first 16 grants in a £250,000 scheme to improve facilities for sport and recreation in socially deprived areas have been announced by the Sports Council. The grants, totalling £180,000, will help to pay for various projects in England, including several synthetic "kick-about" areas and community recreation centres.

How it is organized

A revised Central Office of Information reference pamphlet, *Sport and Recreation in Britain* has been published by HMSO at £1. It describes the organization of sport and recreation in Britain, the work of official bodies and voluntary organizations, and indicates the level of central and local government expenditure.

People

Sir Stanley Clayton, professor of obstetrics and gynaecology, King's College Hospital Medical School, is to be the new chairman of the Advisory Committee on Discontinuation of Life.

Mr T. M. Morgan, director of education for Gwent, is to chair the Wales, Mr J. R. Fisher, head of Caerffordd County School, the history committee.

Mr K. Brookbank, chief education officer for Birmingham, Mr W. E. Beckley, principal of Warrington Technical College, and Professor S. A. Tobias, head of the mechanical engineering department at Birmingham University, are to be members of the reconstituted Engineering Industry Training Board.

of the European Democratic Students organization, which includes the British Federation of Conservative Students.

Miss Beryl Ashe, head of Dalmain Infants' School, Teddington, is to be head of Adams Hill Infant School, Lewisham.

Mr Bill Beagley, senior lecturer in education at Eastbourne College of Education, is to be head of Ditton Place, an Inner London Education Authority boarding special school, near Haywards Heath, Sussex.

Universities

Dr J. M. A. Whitehouse, senior lecturer and acting director of the medical oncology unit at St Bartholomew's Hospital, London, is to be the new chair of clinical oncology at Southampton University from January 1.

Dr R. C. Smith, reader in electronics, to a personal chair in physical electronics at Southampton University.

Mr Arthur Davies, deputy librarian at the University of Leeds, to be librarian at Lancaster University.

14/15

Victorian schoolmistresses/ discipline

16

Children's literature

17/18, 27

Books: child development; social science; politics; music

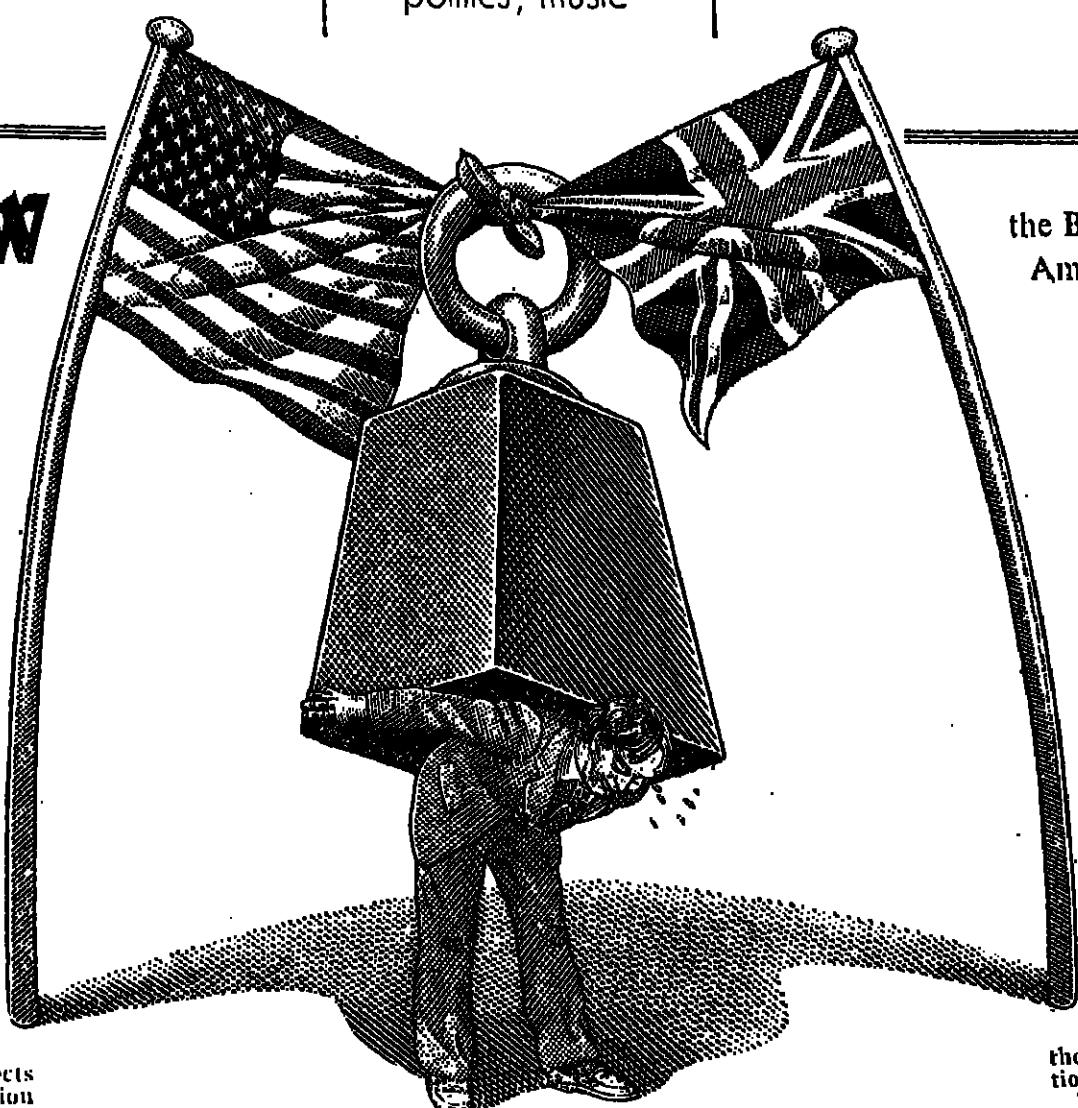
28

Resources: history

29

Talkback: creative writing

Nearly new



C. Michael Darcy compares the British induction scheme to the American Teacher Corps projects

The United States Teacher Corps projects and the United Kingdom Induction Scheme both set out to help new teachers to move more easily from their theoretical training to the practical responsibilities of teaching. The Teacher Corps began in 1965, but it came only slowly to emphasize bridging the gap between theory and practice. The initial effort was to provide teachers during the time of teacher shortage.

The Induction Scheme, arising from the James report, had this problem clearly in focus from its start in 1974. In its second year of operation, the scheme's most important contribution has been the identification of the special concerns of new teachers.

New teachers speak of fatigue as a major problem. They feel this comes from the sense of responsibility for managing others, the isolation of being in charge of a classroom and the new person on the staff, and the need to rapidly build up a set of teaching skills and materials relevant to a school—its curriculum and its children.

The scheme has offered some relief from fatigue. In that the new teachers have a lightened time schedule, and the released time can be used for in-service work. Apart from meeting for courses, the new teachers can meet more often with their colleagues. It reduces their sense of isolation when they find there are others with the same problem.

Probationers report that simply knowing that there is a teacher tutor, whose job it is to assist them with their problems, lightens the burden.

Teacher tutors have gone far beyond merely being available to new teachers, but the development of this new role has met with some problems. In the smaller schools, particularly infant, junior and special schools, tutors report that the only staff member who has a sufficiently flexible schedule and the necessary experience is frequently the head or his deputy. Yet newly qualified teachers sometimes feel reluctant to share a problem with someone who is to assess their probationary period.

In some cases the teacher tutor must move from school to school, to work with several probationers, thereby losing some rapport. Tutors also have questions about how to carry out the job. Should they wait for the probationer to

raise problems? Should they merely organize the visits and other in-service work for the probationers, or take a more interventionist role?

In the United States Teacher Corps, the teacher tutor analog is the team leader. Their main characteristic is that they are seeking, for themselves, some sort of professional renewal or advancement. They are experienced teachers for whom the challenge has worn off. Since none of them are principals (heads), they avoid some tutor problems, but share others with their British colleagues.

In both countries it has proved impossible to establish prerequisites for the job, so the emphasis has fallen on teacher tutor or team leader training. The most useful form for this in the United States has been for the team leaders to work together, using colleges or universities, to prepare materials of use to themselves or to interns (probationers). The problems they have worked on are similar to those that tutors have, as indicated by tutor logs and interviews.

United Kingdom probationers and United States interns most frequently seek advice about individual problems with pupils. Teacher tutors and team leaders seem to spend most time on administrative procedures, ordering materials, keeping pupil records, and school rules. The formal in-service work in the United Kingdom concentrates on the curriculum with which the new teachers must work. The American in-service work spends a great deal of time on teaching strategies, actual methods of classroom organization and instruction.

These differences between what new teachers, their tutors and the in-service agencies are interested in are probably due to their differing perspectives. The new teachers are concerned with what is immediately in front of them—problems with children. Tutors and team leaders are concerned with the systems within which they must work. The British in-service agencies dwell on subject matter because of the examination system, while the American in-service agencies focus on the methods of teaching, since there is no general system of examinations.

The most common interaction between

tutors and probationers is the 'one-to-one discussion. While this is appropriate for many purposes, new teachers often expressed a desire for more open, small group debates. A frequently used form of tuition is observation—either by the probationer of experienced teachers, or of the probationer by the teacher tutor. Now teachers have said that, though anxious about being observed and criticized, they would benefit from more of this sort of help.

In the United States discussions between team leaders and their interns, and observation, have been combined into a system for training leaders to help interns. This is called instructional supervision, and the materials are now being Anglicized in Liverpool.

New teachers often feel they must play a guessing game about the standards to be applied to their performance. Evaluation forms tend to use the most general terms. In the United States there has been a movement toward competence-based teacher education. The knowledge, skills and experience that a new teacher should have are spelled out, and this includes the means of assessment. The means of acquiring these competences are left to the new teacher, the team leader and the training institution. In essence the course begins with making the examination public.

A major problem for all working with the Induction Scheme is the reward system. New teachers and teacher tutors want the college people to see the schools, the children, the materials and problems, to observe and criticize teaching, and give demonstration lessons. The feeling is that college lecturers are out of touch with reality.

The college people do not object to this as a concept, but the reward system in the colleges does not recognize such field work. An additional academic degree, a popular course which draws in more students, a publication—all these are rewarded. Work in schools can only be done at the expense of the main job. There were several complaints from people who had worked on the teacher tutor handbook, given lectures at professional centres, or who had in other ways gone beyond the narrow definition of

their job, that they received no recognition.

The Induction Scheme relies on released time and on extra payments as rewards. Both are used sparingly in the Teacher Corps projects, where the major rewards are recognition and opportunities for advancement. All materials produced carry the names of those who worked on them, and so can be used in preparing credentials for future job applications.

Team leaders and interns, as well as the college personnel, are encouraged to attend professional meetings, with at least a portion of their expenses paid. The in-service training offered receives credit which may be applicable to advanced degrees. The team leaders are given adjunct status at the institution which houses the in-service programme, and so get some of the perquisites of the college staff.

The more effective rewards for the college people have been increases in conference expense money, increased opportunity for research and writing, and increased availability of secretarial and reprographic material. However, it has been difficult to get American colleges and universities to alter the basis for promotion and tenure, or to change the basis for computing work load to account for the different style of teaching involved in in-service work. In working for these changes American educators use the model provided by British teachers' centres, and what the James report calls "professional centres".

The difference in the reward system is a calculated effort to keep the immediate cost of the Teacher Corps projects down. It is also a calculated exploitation of a belief that people, in the United States if not elsewhere, respond better to delayed gratification than to immediate reward.

In its two years the Induction Scheme has uncovered the problems of the redesign of teacher education which have preoccupied the Teacher Corps projects in the United States for the past 10 years. By sharing potential answers perhaps the resolution of the problems can be accelerated.

C. Michael Darcy is a Fulbright Senior Research Fellow attached to Liverpool L.E.A., and visiting lecturer in educational administration at New York State University.



In 1900, the young mistress at Temple Cowley Infants' School, Oxfordshire, had nearly 40 children all to herself.

Above their class

Pamela Horn looks at the life and times of country schoolmistresses in Victorian England

"Wanted: immediately, certificated or uncertificated, a MISTRESS (with mother or sister to assist), for Mixed Village School. Evangelical principles, good testimonials, and good singer required. Address: Rev. E. Walford, Dallington, Wickham Market" (advertisement in *The Schoolmaster*, January 6, 1872).

For women and girls in Victorian England school teaching provided one of the few ways of earning a living, apart from ill-paid domestic drudgery or dress-making, or work at a factory machine. Partly for this reason, the profession became dominated by women, so that by the end of the century they outnumbered their male counterparts by about three to one.

For the daughters of small tradespeople, gardeners and agricultural labourers it was a means of rising in society. These groups provided the majority of recruits to the profession, as one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools pointed out in 1847: "In the country they are the children of small tradesmen, yeomen, or the upper servants in gentlemen's families. In the towns, and especially in London, they belong to the better and higher divisions of the operative classes. They are the children of respectable artisans, silk-weavers, cabinet-makers, etc."

who passed through training colleges, particularly from the 1840s onwards, success could mean setting up with a comfortable salary of £60 a year or more, with a rent-free house and garden. Even those without formal training—well over half of the total—were not badly placed, with a salary of perhaps two-thirds of that amount. Few adult male manual workers in the mid-Victorian years were able to command a basic wage of nearly £1 a week.

Cheap labour for cleaning the school house or for carrying out other chores could easily be recruited from among the scholars, on the grounds of giving them domestic training. A Suffolk woman, born about 1870, recalled being paid 2d a week to clean the school, lay the fires, and at weekends scrub the school lavatories. She received a further 2d a week for fetching the mistress's bread and milk.

In the early days some teachers were of very low calibre—as at one small Oxfordshire school, where in 1854, an inspector noted that the education given was "of a very indifferent quality. The degree of intelligence very small. The teacher is untrained and not skilled in the art of teaching. In very bad weather she can not come to school, the distance from her house being too great. The

number of pupils and the salary are both too small to engage the energies of an experienced teacher."

But most achieved a satisfactory result, as Flora Thompson remembered of her first mistress at Cottisford School in north Oxfordshire during the 1880s: "Every morning, when school had assembled, and Governor, with her starched apron and bobbing curls appeared in the doorway, there was a great rustling and scraping of curtseying and pulling of forelocks. 'Good morning, children.' Good morning, ma'am, were the formal, old-fashioned greetings. Then, under her determined fingers, the harmonium wheezed out 'Once in Royal or 'We are but little children weak', prayers followed, and the day's work began."

At this school the mistress taught all the children herself, aided only by two young monitors, former pupils aged about 12, who were paid 1s a week for their services. In such circumstances firm discipline was considered essential if order were to be maintained. But some women, like the mistress at the school in Penn in Buckinghamshire at the turn of the century, whose favourite punishment "was to make a dullard stand in front of his fellow-pupils holding as many as 12 slates on his head."

In most village schools teachers confined their basic instruction to reading,

writing and arithmetic, with religious knowledge and needlework for the girls. Only a few of the more ambitious extended their programme to cover history or geography or English grammar.

One of their main anxieties was securing satisfactory attendance; not until 1880 did it become compulsory for every child to attend school at least to the age of 10 and thereafter to 14, unless he or she could pass a simple leaving examination. Even after that date there were always some backsliders who were ready to break the law and to stay away from school, in order to earn a few pence working on the land or in a local industry.

Despite this situation, from 1862 onwards government financial help to elementary schools depended primarily upon the level of attendance achieved by the pupils, plus their success in an annual examination conducted by one of Her Majesty's Inspectors of Schools in the three Rs. The mistress's worries were compounded by the fact that in many village schools it was customary to link the amount of her salary in any one year to the grant received by the school from the central government.

It is possible to trace a note of growing anxiety and even hysteria in the school records of some teachers as the date for the annual inspection drew near. Thus at Leckford in Hampshire the mistress

Back to the bad old days

Cynthia Mitchell looks at the darker side of 'good, old-fashioned discipline'

She whipped him, she lashed him, she drove him through the mire, I would not lead my pony now for all that lady's hire.

After all these years, there it is again going round, unbidden, evoking painful memory. Why? I remember the exact moment when the pony turned into a child, and the lady into a headmistress, and the worlds of this rhyme, which I had forgotten I knew, pulsed in my head as I rushed into the staff lavatory in tears.

It was two minutes to nine on a cold, grey morning in the cold, grey boys' yard of a cold, grey elementary school. The Second World War was over, the men teachers were returning, and I was an ex-office girl who, a few weeks earlier, had been transformed into an uncertificated supply teacher by a 10-minute interview with the deputy education officer. Anyone willing was needed, to hold open vacant classes until service-men previously employed by the local education authority had had their demob leave.

I had arrived in this rotten school, the previous day, and been given the job of holding on to standard two, as typical a mob of 50 under-nourished, hand-me-down-clothed, eight-year-old anti-schoolers who could be found anywhere in those northern parts in those futherless days.

At 10 to nine I had blown the whistle in the boys' yard, as instructed, and nothing happened. The fighting, screeching mass around me fought and screeched on regardless. At the fifth piercing blast, a boy far bigger than me stopped twisting the ear of his smaller companion and asked, "What's up?" When I said, "Aren't you supposed to get into line or something?" he looked astonished and relaxed his grip. His victim escaped, and with an oath he gave chase. (I was later told that he would naturally be surprised because, as far as the staff could remember, until I replaced a man, no woman teacher had ever set foot in the boys' yard.)

Suddenly the noise died, and the mass of bodies sorted itself out into a squad of straight lines, with each boy standing rigidly to attention, all eyes seemingly on me. A cane swished behind me; I turned to see the headmaster standing in the doorway. Slowly he advanced and began a steady, swishing prowl up and down the ranks. Five boys were poked to the front with the cane, asked if they had cleaned their boots that morning, and given three vicious strokes on each hand for lying.

As they shuffled back to their places I thought I was going to be sick. I looked at the offending footwear, and saw that not one pair had uppers completely attached to the soles, and that one boy's bare toes protruded from a large hole where the toe of his sock should have been. He whipped them and lashed them and he drove them through the mire, and he called it discipline. "Discipline," he said, when I was on the mat at playtime for arriving late and tear-stained in class; "good discipline is the first lesson a would-be teacher must learn."

Seemingly fair advice for a beginner, but it was this word "good" that stuck in the gut. Throughout my early supply teaching days it was constantly used in staffrooms to describe practices that, by any civilized standards, were thoroughly bad, if not downright wicked. More often than not the only advice I got about how to deal with a disturbed, feeble, dull, backward or near-mentally deficient child was "What he needs is a good hiding"; "I'd give it to her good and proper if I was you"; "Send him to the boss—he's

in good form today". When I never did I was told, "You'll learn, life's easier for the staff when the head swings a good right arm." What I learnt was that that is not true.

My own prewar elementary school headmaster was renowned as a good disciplinarian. One of his delights was to repeatedly strike top A on the piano, and force us to squawk the Lord's Prayer over and over again until the desired purity of tone was achieved. Boys and girls of eight to 14 would puff out their chests like pouter pigeons as he stalked up and down the ranks with a raised clenched fist, loudly thumping on the breast bone those accused of not standing up straight enough.

After the parade, he indulged in his greatest pleasure, and pronounced the dreaded words, "Absentees of yesterday". It was the greatest terror of my early childhood that I would become an absentee of yesterday, and have to stand at the front to be sneered at, abused and probably thrashed for the wickedness of having contracted measles or mumps.

I need not have feared abuse and violence because I was one of those who could produce a correctly spelt note from articulate parents of some social standing in the village, and I was only subject to the sneering part of the ceremony. The most unfortunate absentees of yesterday were the regulars, the "Please, sir, I had to mind the baby cos me man was poorly" or "Please, sir, I didn't have no shoes" brigade. The more pathetic their home lives, the greater the punishment. On a good slashing day the head would be in such a fine mood that, beating time with his hot cane, he would send us off to our classes singing "Tipperary".

This was a short-lived pleasure, because the disapproving teachers who received us would feel obliged to hit or cane one or two of the more boisterous singers, whom they feared were interpreting this deviation from the norm as licence to enjoy themselves. But come playtime, enjoy themselves these toughened kids did, beating the living daylights out of smaller, feebler and less aggressive children, in imitation of their betters, but without the adult refinement of regard for the niceties of parental social standing.

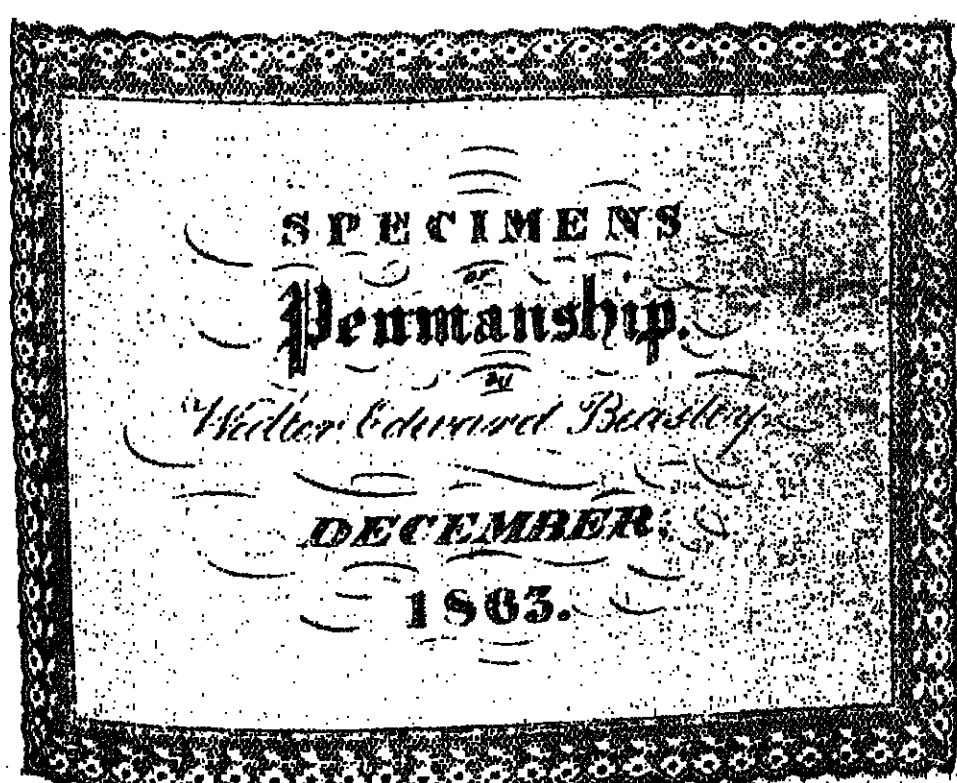
Still, it was all a long time ago, wasn't it? The problems of schools are very different now, 30 years on, and, thankfully, the slightest evidence of excesses of zeal for punishment make headlines. But for how long? As the memory of the extent to which some of these excesses were carried is fading, public reaction to such headlines is changing. It seems to be becoming more and more fashionable and respectable to speak out in favour of good, old-fashioned discipline—said to advocate a hierarchical work force for a bygone age, and at worst were barbarous.

Public utterances from all sections of society, from the pub know-all to aspiring Secretaries of State, would indicate growing support for a simple turn-back-the-clock approach to the vast, complex and ever differing but continuous problems of educating a nation's children for a largely unforeseeable future. Yet the future, and the future only, is what education is about.

Undoubtedly, experiences of the total reality of the past are valuable in helping to determine directions for the future, but what we can learn from them can only lead to improvement in the education of all our children in the light of what could be. For this we need people of far greater vision than those who can do no better than point to the murky shadows of what has been, and tell us that retreat is the best way forward.

Is the educational history of this country in danger of repeating itself? A few years ago such a question would have been laughable. Now it is not so funny. In the present climate of nostalgia, could anyone confidently predict that brutality to children in the name of education could never occur again? I do not know about these short-sighted years after the good old days, but if ever the evil day comes again when sadists posing as good disciplinarians are accepted as respected local citizens, I would not send my child to one for all authority's ire.

Cynthia Mitchell is deputy head of Ackworth Village School, Pontefract, and author of *Time for School*.



Writing and 'penmanship' were given great emphasis in Victorian schools.

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Theory for practice

Ronald V. White on English for science and technology

A conspicuous development in ELT during the seventies has been the enormous growth in teaching English for Special Purposes, and especially the teaching of English for Science and Technology. These growth areas are spawning a new set of acronyms, like ESP and EST, as well as drawing attention to a set of needs which many ELT teachers have found difficult in meeting.

Although there is no shortage of course material in English for General Purposes, to date the range of EST textbooks has been more restricted, and teachers faced with setting up courses have had a limited selection of published materials.

The publication of *English in Focus* (Oxford University Press) promises greatly to extend the choice available. The series is edited by Patrick Allen and Henry Widdowson, who have collaborated on writing the first title, *English in Physical Science* (£1.10 and teachers' book £2.00). Doctors Allen and Widdowson bring considerable academic expertise to their task. Both have published stimulating papers detailing new approaches to the teaching of grammar and rhetoric, and now, in conjunction with Eric Glendinning, Joan Maclellan (responsible for *English in Basic Medical Practice* £1.50 and £2.70) and Alan Mountford, they have translated theory into teaching material.

Their aim is to enable students in higher education to use the type of written English that they will encounter in their specialist subjects. The writers believe that language learning involves more than learning sentence patterns and vocabulary, and that it "must also involve an understanding of how people use these linguistic forms in order to communicate". In other words, theirs is basically a functional approach.

All the material has been specially written, but in such a way as to preserve and exemplify characteristics typical of the rhetoric of the subject concerned. Each book consists of eight units, and each unit exhibits a similar pattern throughout. First there is a reading and comprehension section, followed by those dealing with grammar and usage. The student may then be required to translate information from verbal to graphic or tabular form. This is then generally followed by sections dealing with paragraph writing and free reading. This format is good; material is clearly and attractively presented.

The writers have conscientiously applied their theory to practice, as exemplified in the reading and comprehension section which employs the familiar multiple choice technique in a new guise. In order to train the student in active, interactive reading, each passage is "exploded" and multiple choice items are presented at the end of each paragraph. The passage is then presented as a piece of deductive reasoning so that the student is led through a logical process in

working out the correct choice from the alternatives available. There are also exercises on pronoun reference to highlight the interconnection of sentences in discourse.

Of special interest are the information transfer exercises, linking verbal and visual material in a variety of ways. For instance, in one exercise the student has to "assemble" an illustration of a piece of equipment from the pictorial and visual material in the description in the accompanying text. There is also a range of classification exercises in the texts, *Mechanical Engineering* by Eric Glendinning (£1.10 and £2.00) and *Workshop Practice* by Alan Mountford (£1.30 and £2.40). These employ tree diagrams and tables which the student has to complete, and which can then be used for further language practice. The use of such diagrams and graphs to illustrate relationships and trends is common in scientific and technical writing, and the *Focus* series exploits such material effectively.

The series is not without its defects, however. First, it is likely that, after some time, the uniform effect on organization of the units in each book will have a debilitating effect on student interest and motivation. It is not enough, as the authors apparently expect, to depend on the student being prepared to concentrate diligently on the features of language exemplified in the texts if monotony of the material results in boredom.

Second, the writers state that they have attempted to avoid mechanical drills and repetitive pattern practice. Yet there are exercises in their grammar and usage sections which appear to concentrate on manipulation at the expense of communication and interest. Such exercises do not represent a methodological breakthrough and in terms of communication and motivation are of dubious value.

Third, the writers anticipate that the student already have acquired some competence in basic English grammar. Such an assumption no doubt simplifies their task as writers, but it is of little comfort to the EST teacher faced with a group of students who, theoretically, come equipped with basic English grammar, but who have difficulty in producing grammatically acceptable sentences, let alone coherent discourse. This format is good; material is clearly and attractively presented.

Fourth, the writers exploit subject specific content, and they hope that students with some knowledge of the field will capitalize on this. Unfortunately, these students may well find the subject content old hat, with predictable effects on interest and participation.

Finally, it is unrealistic to expect the students to "approach" the linguistic content of this book with the same spirit of enquiry and desire for knowledge as they would be expected to bring to his study of chemistry, physics or engineering.

Refreshment and revision

Mary Hoffman

Use of English Test Papers. By Geoffrey Land.

Reading Comprehension Test Papers. By Geoffrey Land.
Oxford University Press £1.00 each.

These two paperbacks are intended to provide timed practice material for students taking the Cambridge Certificate in English, so the format of the papers is determined by the form of the exam. *Use of English* offers passages for close procedure, where the student must, but an appropriate word in gaps, and structure tests and dialogues and stories to generate factual reports. Within this rigid framework, Geoffrey Land has not allowed himself to become restricted. Sentences in a paper bag and "You are very chocolate" are just two much exercises and the stories are full of inventive touches which will lighten the task of student and teacher alike. The local government election was candidate from the Toll party

and the Changeless party and an historical novelist has just completed a book called *Curry Parthians*.

The same ingenuity has gone into the selection of interesting passages for reading comprehension. There are tantalizing extracts from *Christy Loderwood*, Dorothy Sayers, *Road Dahl* and others. May, on grumble is that there is no list of where they all come from, particularly since not all occur in the characters, not to mention the reader, dangling from a cliff. It is not Mr. Land's fault that comprehension of these passages is tested by means of the table of contents appears on the back of the title page—and there is room for only the tersest of introductions. It is also confusing that Mr. Hill prints what he calls phonetic transcription usually reserved for broad phonetic transcription, instead of the customary square brackets, and uses square brackets to mean something else. But in spite of these editorial points, it remains a valuable practice book for students or teachers used in the classroom or for self-help.

An Elementary Refresher Course
By L. A. Hill
Oxford University Press £1.80.

This is the second edition of the first of L. A. Hill's trilogy of re-

freshers courses, the others being *Intermediate and Advanced*. It offers lively passages as a means of practising particular English structures, from the use of the article to the auxiliary "do". These are largely idiomatic—though one small boy does say to another "John, have you any money?"—and are added by Peter Edwards' informative and amusing drawings. Students are then given a new context in which to practice the same structures.

In their attempts, presumably, to keep the price down, the publishers have been rather skimp with paper—the table of contents appears on the back of the title page—and there is room for only the tersest of introductions. It is also confusing that Mr. Hill prints what he calls phonetic transcription usually reserved for broad phonetic transcription, instead of the customary square brackets, and uses square brackets to mean something else. But in spite of these editorial points, it remains a valuable practice book for students or teachers used in the classroom or for self-help.

From the twentieth century back

A. J. Baird on teaching literature

In teaching English literature to learners whose mother tongue is not English one is restricted to the written word. It is a difficult point to literary skills beyond the text and outside the period being studied.

One cannot take for granted the background knowledge and reading skills which an English learner might be expected to have. Unless we know for certain that the learner has a certain field of literary knowledge, we are not justified in referring him to that field. To do so would be to add to his burden of learning, and the aim of teaching is to clarify.

One takes for granted some of the language and we assume the learner has the text. So the more information we can get the text to yield in terms of the language the more we are to help the learner. Before we set about this difficult task we shall have to ask ourselves a number of questions about aspects of the textual material which we would normally take for granted. These one can do little more than briefly to suggest what some of these questions might be.

First, we might ask how predictable the language of the text is in terms of the particular register and period in which it was written. Second, we might ask how much of the meaning of the passage is explicit and how much implicit. With certain texts, questions of grammar and rhythm may also arise.

It is important to view the latter as common to both poetry and prose and as related to prosody in the linguistic sense. This sound of a foreign language is always of interest to a learner and there are strong arguments in favour of reading parts of the text, if not all of it, aloud.

Some teachers may find it strange to raise questions of grammar in relation to a literary text, but they should be aware that grammar is remote from the traditional notion of "correct" language. Language is a living thing and it changes. Even in terms of contem-

porary language we are able to distinguish between grammatical usage, which seems central in relation to the overall description of the language, and usage, which is peripheral. Error, strictly speaking, does not consist in the use of abnormal language but in the production of non-viable language.

But although I advocate making statements about literature in linguistic terms which the student can verify by examination of the text, I do not follow those who suggest that the style of a text must be analyzed by comparison with a restricted norm. It is sound methodology to proceed from the known to the unknown, but there are some things which we must despair of "knowing" in that sense. Instead of the normative approach, at least so far as the foreign learner is concerned, it would be better to use a contrastive approach, relating one text to another rather than to a supposed norm.

The learner to whom English is a foreign language is likely to assume—unless he is informed to the contrary—that the approved response of a native speaker and his own response to a given text are likely to be almost identical.

With increased sophistication he may discover that this is not so. The task of enlarging the student's response range so that he can project himself into the foreign English background and reproduce the academically approved responses of those native to that culture is one of extraordinary and daunting difficulty. Further, it has not even been proved that this end is a desirable one.

This is not to say that the foreign student of English literature should not be made aware of the differences between cultures. But he should not be led to suppose that the response of a native English speaker to a particular literary text in English is not only different from but preferable to his. It is meretricious teaching indeed which refuses to acknowledge a genuine response.

It is worth bearing in mind that

we who speak English as a mother tongue feel free to respond to Shakespeare on our own terms and do not necessarily have to reproduce the social and religious attitudes of the Elizabethan period in order to appreciate the plays. The socio-historical approach has its value, but the danger in many countries—our own included—is not that the learner will respond to great literature in the wrong way, but that he will fail to respond at all.

To any wish to raise the whole question of the value of first-rate and second-rate literature. One can sympathize with the teacher pressed for time who feels that his students should be acquainted with what is best in English literature. Granted that the canons of taste change from generation to generation, still it is possible to reach some sort of consensus about the merits of prominent writers of the past. But it seems impossible to do so with reference to modern writing and that is, perhaps, why so many prominent teachers of English literature abroad are inclined to neglect the literature of today.

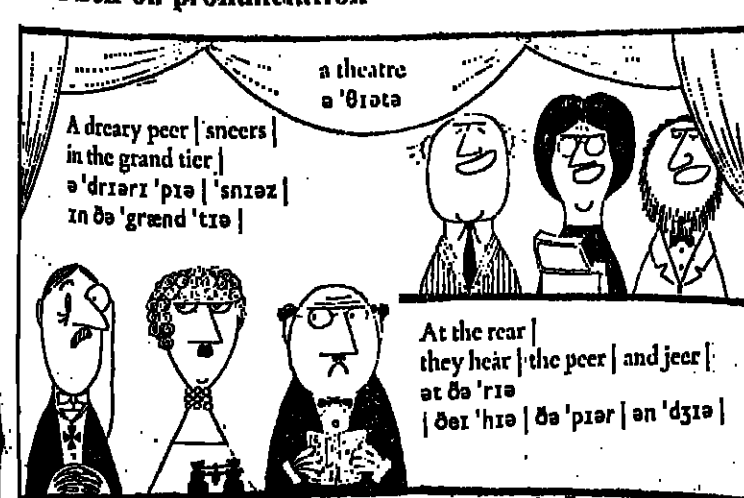
Is it so important, however, to be able to take winners in the immortality stakes? Often the great writers are those whose work belongs outside time and is not typical of the period in which it is written, while less prominent writers will sometimes present a fuller and more consistent picture of the social background of a period or a nation.

Whatever our views may be about great writing, there are excellent reasons for starting with the twentieth century and going backwards. For one thing, the learner has—hope—been taught twentieth-century English at school and he is likely to find this kind of English easy to follow. And then, of course, he lives in the twentieth century himself.

Finally, as most psychiatrists and lovers of detective stories will agree, there is a certain fascination in examining things as they are and then going back to discover by what means they were brought about.

'Jean likes gin'

David Self on pronunciation



An illustration from "English Pronunciation Illustrated"

English Pronunciation Illustrated.
John Trim.
Cambridge University Press £1.00.
21 2034 0. (Tapes available.)

English Pronouncing Dictionary. By Daniel Jones. Revised by A. C. Gimson.
Addison Paperbacks £2.50, 460 02181

Longman Pocket English Dictionary.
By A. W. Truhy.
Longman 35p, 582 55526 4.

Really the most original of this trio of recently released EFL classics is John Trim's *English Pronunciation Illustrated*. It is indeed exactly what it promises. Its contents are grouped by phonemes, starting in each case with common nouns and

progressing through noun phrases to complete sentences. Special emphasis is laid upon the minutest of contrasts in order to concentrate attention on the subtleties of English pronunciation.

Each word, phrase and sentence is illustrated by Peter Kneebone's cartoons which (together with the pleasantly humorous text) make for a lightness of touch which is an agreeable surprise in a textbook. Yet after all, why shouldn't we use such sentences as "Jean likes gin... Barbara but gin doesn't like Jean?" "Barbara has blue eyes, bathing blissfully in a bubble-bath" and "A bold spy put a big bomb in a pork pie" when struggling to teach our elusive English vowel sounds?

Also included is an introduction which suggests ways of using the book for class teaching, for private tuition, and ways it can be used by students working without a teacher or by speech teachers and therapists working with pupils for whom English is the mother tongue.

A phonetic transcript (based on a system devised by Professor C. Gimson) is provided throughout. Such is the sad state in the world of phonology these days where an increasingly diverse variety of such systems is being employed, this is not, in detail, even the same system as that followed by Professor Gimson in his revision of Daniel Jones's famous *Pronouncing Dictionary*.

First published almost 50 years ago, this reference book for native English speakers. Over the years it has increasingly been used by foreign learners. It was revised (by Professor Gimson) in 1967 to take account of the evolution of Received Pronunciation and is now, for the first time, available as a paperback.

This comprehensive book has long been a much favoured authority—particularly because it is descriptive; it records how words are pronounced, rather than being prescriptive in stating how words should be pronounced or will be pronounced. It is still a volume to be respected and consulted.

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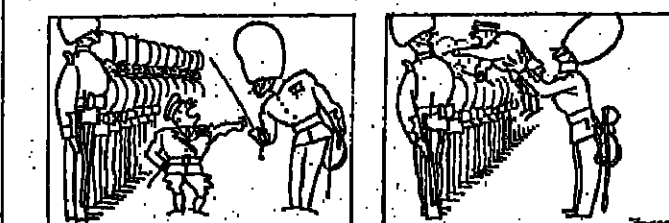
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Groundwork

Ronald Broadfield on preparation for the Cambridge certificate and proficiency exams

Taking First Certificate, by Alison Sprules and Elizabeth Benner. University Tutorial Press L1.35 0 7231 0659 2

English for Translation, by Dennis Chamberlain and Gillian White. £1.20 0 521 20989 7

Understanding Ideas, by Michael Swan. £1.40 0 521 21146 8

Cambridge English Language Learning series, Cambridge University Press.

Interlock, by J. C. Templer. 75p 0 435 28742 7

First Certificate Themes 2, Life and Relationships, by Doug Case, Judy Garlon-Sprenger, and Judy Logtun. £1.25 0 435 28501 7

Heinemann Educational.

Proficiency in the Use of English, by John Millington Ward. Longman L1.00 0 582 55341 5

The price the teacher pays for (preparing) the greater reliance everyone must have on textbooks.

You can choose your own comprehension material, but you cannot rustle up a multiple choice exercise in a hurry.

Alison Sprules and Elizabeth Benner's *Taking First Certificate* is perhaps the least humorous of a dull bunch.

It covers the ground for the new Cambridge First Certificate with great care, and is divided into sections which correspond to the various papers in the examination—Paper 1 (Composition), Paper 2 (Reading Comprehension), Paper 3 (Use of English)—an in itself I am afraid, it is all Use of English.

—Paper 4 (Listening Comprehension), Paper 5 (Oral). Paper 5 has interesting questions like "What is the name of the third set of teeth usually needed sometime after middle age?" and "Is it quite common in your country for people to meet their friends in a cafe or restaurant?"

In the oral paper you are apparently expected to comment on some very ill-considered and some very ill-considered photographs. "As a personal judgement, Alison Sprules wishes to record her continuing and ever-deepening debt to the Australian Government Research team, who, under Neil Osman, devised the method of learning a language which makes rapid, accurate, efficient and on a large scale inevitable for those fortunate enough to learn in this way." This is open to question.

English for Translation offers "a

graded course for intermediate students" especially Cambridge First Certificate ones, with exercises based on aspects of English which come up in the passage to a "perfect" tense with adverbs of frequency, "quite" "double comparative" "rather/fairly" "use" "one lot". The passages are from (for example) "The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe" by C. S. Lewis, *Alfred Hitchcock's Cookbook*, from Cornwell's *Geography Guide*, Elizabeth Goudge, the Cambridge Evening News and old Cambridge certificate extracts.

Understanding Ideas—more leech-rather, not where they are gathered but where they gather—there are various ways of not comprehending, and these cannot always be exactly correlated with the difficulty of learning a foreign language.

Swan is almost intelligent to the point of subversion, and "although the passages in the book are intended to function as training, many of them are absurd to deal with. It seems absurd to deal with the word 'What does the word 'What' do in four sections: basic reading technique and multiple choice tests, writing, practice tests, and summary forms of English."

Texts chosen include *Money* magazine, the *Reader's Digest*, *Only When I Laugh*, James Bond, *The Smith in Millium*. *Interlock* is (so the Cambridge First Certificate, and subsidiary or supplementary text, be used as some of the visual aids: a film and the tired jargon of "feedback" and "transform take-ins" annoying.

John Millington Ward's work is always fun to use, except for the cartoon, which is also aimed at the paper three of the Cambridge Certificate. *Relationships* also falls into the "highly subsidiary" category.

In itself, it is a very good enough to dispense the rather decent hangs over so much English teaching, by encouraging prolonged attention to Mohammed Ali, Johann Cruyff, David Essex, *The Godfather* and *Last Tango in Paris*, they have ensured that their product will be highly bio-graphic. Try this reading comprehension on Cruyff: "For every ninety-minute game he plays he earns A less than £500; B about £100; C 100 million pence; D almost £10,000." Teachers will testify that nothing is more boring than prolonged attention to the popular press, which are deliberately written to be as brittle and ephemeral as possible.

Evans Graded Reading General Editor: Ronald Ridout. I've used it informally in my graded readers for students of any age.

Of the five grades younger students will appreciate titles from grades 1 and 2 such as *Islands*, *Flow Sports* and *Games* by Ian, and *Who? How? When? Advanced* grades include *Women in Britain*, *Education in Britain*, *Football* and *The Generation Gap*, which reflect the British way of life.

New titles include: *Theatre in Britain*, *Clothes and Fashion*, *What's Cooking* and *Family Life*.

Grades 1-5: *Words* by Ronald Ridout. Puzzles, riddles, simple problems help build vocabulary and give practice in handling basic structures and in reading for exact meaning. Answers are included.

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Stages of fluency

Heather Neill

Theatre can, of course, be an excellent aid to teaching, so the execution of EFL into dramatics seemed a good idea. The surprise is that EFL turns out to be enjoyable theatre in its own right, as demonstrated by the English Teaching Theatre, anyway.

EFL exists solely to perform to students for whom English is a second language. I suppose I had imagined a cross between a phrase book set to music and a perfectly ordinary EFL lesson, but EFL manages to do something else entirely. For a start, the show is fun to watch—even if you have been speaking English from the age of two. It consists of fast-moving scene sketches delivered in a style which many a professional comedian would not be ashamed of. (In fact, only one of the company is a professional actor and one a professional musician, most of the rest being teachers.) Rousing music links the sketches and supports ideas introduced verbally.

There is an air of assurance about the whole thing, not just on the part of the actors, but on behalf of the audience, too. The self-assurance is calculated to bolster the confidence as users of English. On the other hand, nothing is left to chance: the choice of language is not as casual as it seems but each word is selected "painstakingly" (the description is that of Hazel Lambert, who both acts and writes for EFL). The others writers are Ken Wilson and Doug Case.

The material is suitable for intermediate students, but as there are a number of visual gags (like a king and queen eating cornflakes at a seedy breakfast table and a driving examiner changing two passengers in an imaginary car) as well as plenty of subtle introduced repetition, even comparative beginners could benefit. The actors become teachers from time to time, for they step out of role momentarily to ask the audience simple questions about what is happening on stage ("What does this hat remind you of?").

There is, of course, no attempt to introduce new principles of language ("Nobody is going to learn how to use 'should have' simply by coming to see the show," says Hazel.) The idea is to boost confidence and stimulate enthusiasm for EFL. The English Teaching Theatre company, 10 in number to spread



the load of their touring commitments, though only five appear in each show, spend much of the year travelling around Europe, but spend the summer in this country appearing in various places including the Almost Free Theatre in London. Further information about the company can be obtained from Ken Wilson (01-437 9167).

Tense times

Eric Harrison on grammar

Guide to Patterns and Usage in English, 2nd Edition, by A. S. Hornby.

Oxford University Press £2.00. 19 431318 2 £1.20 19 431317 4.

English Grammatical Structure, by L. G. Alexander, W. Stannard Allen, R. A. Close, R. J. O'Neill.

Longman £7.50 582 55325 3.

These two books attack the same problem—that of analysing and systematising language-in-use so that a logical and progressive arrangement can be made for teaching on the basis of sentence-building. This

sentence-building technique owes much of its universality to Hornby's original edition of 1954 which set out his 25 verb patterns and paved the way for the substitution tables and oral drills of his subsequent teaching books, *The Teaching of Structural Words* and *Sentence Patterns*. In the process he gave a neat illustration of how to derive a text book from an analytical reference book.

The second edition contains a fair amount of revision and rearrangement (particularly as regards nouns, determiners and adjectives) but a useful index of correspondences between the two editions is provided for those who were nurtured on the first. The concentration on time rather than on tense, and the method of classifying by concept and situation (obligation, possibility, necessity etc.) rather than by the verb structures of formal language are both retained in the second edition.

English Grammatical Structure is based partly on the authors' collective experience of teaching and com-

paring teaching materials and partly on a *Grammar of Contemporary English* (Longman) which appeared in 1972 after Hornby's Guide had been revised. In consequence, the prescribed verb patterns are classified into five main sections with a total of 38 sub-sections as opposed to Hornby's 25. The other areas of the book are also comparatively expanded.

This work is more than an inventory of sentence patterns and grammatical structures (as the authors modestly describe it). Inasmuch as several examples are given (often in dialogue form) of each pattern model, the book lends itself readily to imitation by the EFL teacher looking for instant lesson material. It does not, however, provide instant syllabus planning since the authors recognize that syllabuses are not separable from teaching aims and teaching techniques. Nevertheless, the book is handily arranged as a logical development in six 30-unit stages. Each has a lexicon so that, by relating this to the appropriate numbered words in the model patterns or variations within a structure come quickly to hand.

A separate index of abbreviations would be useful in a book of this complexity. One has to consult the main index to discover, for example, that NP2 means the second word phrase in a sentence pattern or that pro-form means a word or structure used to avoid repetition, but this is carrying a good deal of labour for those engaged in curriculum planning, testing, teaching or writing EFL textbooks and graded readers.

Finding words

David Self on improvisation

Certainly in the early stages, speaking a foreign language is very much a matter of improvising with a number of acquired expressions and re-arranging them for fresh uses. The improvisation of "educational" or "theatrical" drama can be used in EFL, leading to create a wide variety of situations that will extend the range of already possessed language and (through a carefully controlled process) increase the expressive power of the language.

One of the express purposes of a drama has long been to create a new context for language. This is context "drama" merely the reading of a script in a formal classroom setting may help read "functionally": it can do nothing to develop spoken language.

More recently, foreign language teachers in schools have been experimenting with what might be labelled creative drama—the French cookery lesson, French meals and the playing of games and sports while using a second language, for example. Teachers of English as a foreign language are sometimes reluctant to employ such "playful" activities, perhaps because they consider them to be time-wasting or below the dignity of their students.

Admittedly, students from some cultures may have lost or not possess the necessary resources to "make believe". However, once the process of playing improvised scenes as a way of developing language has been explained or demonstrated, then reluctance to participate will gradually diminish. But does not "play-acting" have any real value?

With educational drama in one's native language, it is difficult to prove the value of improvisation in the teaching of English as a foreign language in theoretical terms. To suppose and its benefits are in the teaching of it. What can be said about the playing of a role and the improvisation of a new situation will extend language. They will extend new vocabulary, new ways of making new speech patterns—what is improvisation? he is in the first or second language. And one language (like knowledge) is expressed, it is possessed.

We may think that all this is being achieved in an ordinary conversation practice. Too often, however, in this situation the teacher is asking all the running. The language skills needed to answer a question even if the answer involves re-organizing the vocabulary (of the question) are minimal compared with those required to formulate a question. The improvisation and display situations, with students taking all the roles, demand a much more creative and extending use of language. Even so, this kind of work can be successfully undertaken even when the students know only a little of the language—provided the teacher organizes the exercise with care.

I would suggest the following lines:

In pairs is easiest to motivate to content and probably in more talking than does other groupings, though those in confidence may be happier when working in threes;

(b) Any improvisation is helped by being given a precise location (e.g. waiting room, café, airport lounge, ferry terminal, etc.);

(c) The situation must be "real" to the participants—i.e. they must have had experienced something similar or be able to imagine themselves in that situation in the future;

(d) Any sense of "theatre" or performance that will encourage exhibitionism or self-consciousness rather than involvement must be avoided. When working with a class, it is often more successful to have the whole class involved at once in separate improvisations than to have a small group "performing" to an audience;

(e) Encourage belief in the situations created and (if necessary) support this belief by the use of props—e.g. real wine bottles, tickets, stamps, packets, plates and cutlery, etc.

(f) Remember that the spoken language is less formal than the written and encourage fluency and confidence rather than a rigid adherence to accepted syntax and grammar, but;

(g) Encourage participants to question each other increasingly precisely so that there is accurate comprehension of points made and explanations given.

In these early stages, the improvised situations will be fairly obvious ones—scenes connected with travel, with eating out, and with the seeking of directions, etc.

The next step is to provide printed materials that will enrich the language of the improvised scenes. Wherever possible this should be genuine. Useful items include GPO telephone dialling booklets, the prefices to telephone directories, London Transport maps, British Rail leaflets, especially those advertising cheap rates and excursions, postal rate leaflets, theatre and cinema box office plans and advertisements from newspapers, foreign exchange pamphlets from banks, customs literature, A4 handbooks, maps and menus.

In many of the exercises, it will be necessary to give time for a re-playing of the scene, in order to give all the students the experience of undertaking both a questioning and an explanatory use of language. From this, it will be possible to progress to larger group improvisations which admit the teacher in a minor role but one from which he can prompt and encourage a more precise and effective use of language, and to improvisations on increasingly novel or "foreign" situations.

All this may seem imprecise and unsatisfactory to both the linguistic scientists and the more pragmatic teachers of EFL. Even so, I would suggest that improvisation and role-playing have their part to play in language acquisition and development, not least by reminding teachers and students that English is a living language and one that is governed not by rules but by usage. They can also provide a little light relief in what can so often become a dangerously humourless activity.

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New lamps for old?

Gerry Abbott on a "programmed" EFL course

English by the Hour, by Malcolm Matthews. Books 1-6 and Teacher's Handbooks, St. Aldate's College, Department of English as a Foreign Language, Rose Place, Oxford.

Fashions in English language teaching methods change so rapidly and diametrically that new textbooks are doubt the latest upon which course-critics are founded; young teachers grumble about them; disconcerted spreads. The trendy course that yesterday earned an outrageous fortune now suffers the slings and arrows of abuse.

Such dissatisfaction has contributed to the rise of the "programme" movement: many EFL teachers at home and abroad have set the typewriters clacking and the duplicators whirring in an attempt to provide materials more congenial to a new era of teaching.

In a foreword, Mr Matthews says that it was dissatisfaction with existing courses for foreign adults, especially the "exasperatingly juvenile approach" to beginners, that prompted him to write this course. Preparing your own materials is time-consuming and exhausting, and presumably supervised the publication of this six-book course, deserves credit for his initiative and industry.

But he makes various claims that are not substantiated by his materials. Perhaps the most serious of these is the subtitle of each book: "Sixty hours of Programmed Learning." In none of the books

is there any attempt to "programme" the items to be learnt. The author's use of the term "programmed learning" is different from the accepted one. Indeed, what he means is apparently explained in the foreword, where he tells us that his course contains enough material for "a six-month programme consisting of 15 hours of learning a week" and adds:

"The programming of the course provides for an exact number of teaching periods and this conforms (ideally) with the requirements of schools of English in the United Kingdom offering four, eight or 12-week courses."

Each "Phase" is to be completed in one hour, apparently without regard to the learners' rate of progress. This practice can be regarded as the very opposite of "programmed learning" as understood generally. The published material would be well advised to alter the subtitle if a second printing is undertaken, since in this consumer-conscious age a misleading claim that it was dissatisfaction with existing courses for foreign adults, especially the "exasperatingly juvenile approach" to beginners, that prompted him to write this course. Preparing your own materials is time-consuming and exhausting, and presumably supervised the publication of this six-book course, deserves credit for his initiative and industry.

But he makes various claims that are not substantiated by his materials. Perhaps the most serious of these is the subtitle of each book: "Sixty hours of Programmed Learning." In none of the books

is there any attempt to "programme" the items to be learnt. The author's use of the term "programmed learning" is different from the accepted one. Indeed, what he means is apparently explained in the foreword, where he tells us that his course contains enough material for "a six-month programme consisting of 15 hours of learning a week" and adds:

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As she is spoke

R. E. Greenwood on reading and listening skills

Cambridge English Language Learning. Inside Meaning: Proficiency reading comprehension. By Michael Swan.

Beyond Words: Certificate reading and listening skills. By Alan Maley and Alan Duff. Cambridge University Press. Students' book £1.40; Teachers' book £2.10; Reels £5.00 each plus VAT; Cassettes £4.50 each plus VAT. Advanced Listening Comprehension. By Colin Black. Evans 95p. 237 28965 2.

These books are concerned with the reading and/or listening ability of the advanced learner of English. The texts make few concessions to the foreign learner, who has to grapple with the complexities of language and thought of writers like Russell, Mansfield and Dylan Thomas, not to mention many articles from *The Times*, *The Listener* and *The Guardian* (whose normal misprints have been fortunately expurgated). The interesting choice of texts is confined mainly to the liberal arts, so that even the occasional quasi-scientific text is for the arts-oriented reader/listener. Many advanced learners will be using English for special purposes, usually for science and technology; one would have thought that some scientific texts dealing with, say, process and hypothesis would have been more relevant than, for instance, a typical Levin article on the Mozart Problem.

At this advanced level the teacher endeavours to provide learning conditions which will produce efficient and discriminating readers/listeners. Efficient reading/listening depends first of all on reading/listening with a purpose, whether this is a general purpose, like reading a novel for pleasure, or a specific one, like looking up a telephone directory for somebody's number. The purpose will usually determine the appropriate type of reading in terms of the speed of reading and the cognitive skills involved. Thus, if the purpose is to find out specific historical dates or events from a chap-

ter, then slow and intensive reading of the text would be inefficient. What is needed here is scanning.

An obvious teaching implication for comprehension work is that learners should know the purpose of their reading/listening before being exposed to it. This rarely happens. Usually, questions follow, so that learners fail to focus their attention effectively during the initial presentation of the text. Questions and directives set beforehand could be a learning device, i.e. a means of developing the linguistic and cognitive skills involved in comprehension. Questions set afterwards tend to be a testing device.

Certain statements by the writers of *Beyond Words* are therefore welcome: "... we regard as even more important the exercises which develop overall strategies of listening and reading." and "Before asking students to look at the text, write the title on the blackboard and ask them what it is likely to be about." Furthermore, it seems a sensible teaching device to present a reading text as a preliminary to a listening text on an allied theme, so that the learner "is in some way prepared for meeting some of it again, in a modified version, in the spoken form". It is, however, by no means certain that a common theme will produce common linguistic forms. Even with the same author and the same article from *The Listener*, the reading and listening texts of Unit 1 have very few words or sentence structures in common. As to the authors' claim that texts on "Battery buses" and "Atomic cars" have "a certain amount of common vocabulary and even syntax", there are only four nouns common to both texts out of a total of 92 different nouns; similarly, only three common verbs out of 50 different ones—and these happen to be non-topical (be, have, can). As for syntax, the reading text has a good many modified nouns and many hyphenated compound adjectives, whereas the listening text lacks these syntactic items. The teacher will therefore have to supply the missing syntactic material, if he wishes to exploit any linguistic links between reading and listening texts which have common themes.

Maley and Duff consider that not only do reading and listening in-

volve similar cognitive skills, but also similar linguistic forms. So much so, that almost all the listening texts are not examples of spoken (i.e. spontaneous) English, but further extracts from the reading sources. This is unsatisfactory on two counts. First, learners are not being exposed to authentic spoken English; and secondly, the listening texts are often far too long, sometimes longer than the corresponding reading text. Because of the transitory nature of the spoken medium, we normally ensure that spoken communications contain an adequate amount of redundancy (repetitions, rephrasing, etc.) to protect the message and to give the listener time to "digest the meat". Conversely, we can—and do—pack in more information into a permanent reading text. Such differences in the two media should be reflected in teaching material. This criticism is also levelled at Black's collection of 10 reading texts for listening practice. Authentic spoken English in the form of short monologues, dialogues and discussions is surely preferable for these advanced learners.

Beyond Words relies heavily on multiple-choice questions. Whatever their value, an occasional change would be welcome to many a learner. For example, the text on population (Unit 16) lends itself to the transfer of knowledge treatment now in favour of constructing a table or graph, which would be more challenging—and authentic—terms of the learner's purpose in reading such a text.

Swan confines himself to reading comprehension. In the notes to teachers he lists some of the reasons for failure in comprehension. His book is an attempt to single out the various problems and give specific practice in comprehension skills. Thus, Unit One focuses attention on how to read texts for

gist details and inference, while Unit Two concentrates on using contextual clues for guessing unknown words. This is a good approach, but the exercises tend to be tests rather than learning aids, partly because they follow the texts and are meant as checks, and partly because the learner rarely is given any real guidance on how to tackle a particular problem. For example, the section on understanding complicated sentences (i.e. embedding) gives no indication of how to identify subjects, verbs and objects.

The one notable exception is the section on writing summaries. Swan rightly wishes to help learners' comprehension to other areas of writing, and here there is a wider procedure for the learner. Such help would have been useful in earlier sections of the book. *Beyond Words* and *Inside Meaning* are substantial enough in themselves to provide teachers with interesting material. The authors wisely advocate a flexible approach in the use of their books.

Advanced Listening Comprehension seems of little value. As stated above, the texts are not authentic spoken English. Beverand Russell never intended his *Human Society in Ethics and Politics* to be listened to in this way, even by a native listener. Furthermore, there cannot be many learners prepared to listen "to each tape 10 or 12 times" without any guidance from the book. The writer himself seems to doubt the value of the exercises "... you don't need to do them ... the right moment to do them is when you've listened to the programme and think you understand it pretty well". The learner is therefore given no help in focusing his attention on any specific aspect of the text. He is unlikely to improve his listening ability or to maintain any motivation he may have had.

Cambridge English Language Learning now has a range of new titles available for teachers and students of English as a foreign language.

Beyond Words

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A course for all students at upper-intermediate level. It provides a complete preparation for the reading and listening comprehension components of the Cambridge First Certificate in English examination. Student's Book £1.40; Teacher's Book £2.10; Cassette 1 £4.50; Cassette 2 £4.50; Reel 1 £6.00; Reel 2 £6.00.

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Advanced Reading Comprehension
MICHAEL SWAN

A course in reading skills and comprehension for advanced students. The book identifies a level between the First Certificate examination and the start of work for the Certificate of Proficiency. £1.40

Inside Meaning

Proficiency Reading Comprehension
MICHAEL SWAN

A comprehension course which can be used to follow on from the same author's *Understanding Ideas*. It provides a complete preparation for the reading comprehension and summary components in the Cambridge Certificate of Proficiency examination. £1.60

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Two illustrations from "Access to English" (Oxford University Press) a four-part course, with optional additional components, designed to prepare students for the Cambridge First Certificate. The books (teacher's £2.50 each, student's 80p each) tell the story of a junior librarian who has all kinds of adventures. Filmmaking and cassettes are available from the publishers.

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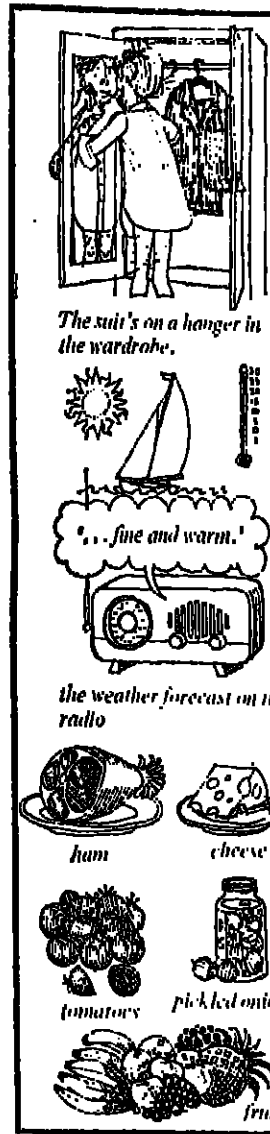
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Telephone 01-734 1633

Friendly dialogues

Mary Hoffman

Advanced Conversational English.
By D. Crystal and D. Davy.
Longman £2.25.
0 582 55074 2.



Between knowing the formal structure of a language and being able to speak it fluently is a great gulch, over which Crystal and Davy have slung a masterly canclever. Those perceptive linguists have cast aside the stylized language patterns of prepared tape dialogues and "text-book people", who do not tell long unfunny jokes or speak with their mouths full or forget what they were going to say. Instead, they have recorded conversations between friends in their homes, in some cases without the speakers' knowledge. The conversations are on a tape to be used with the book, where each dialogue is introduced in context, transcribed according to its stress and intonation patterns and given a linguistic commentary.

There are 15 conversations, including ones about pigs, families, football, Christmas and sex, with the authentic flavour of hesitation, repetition, unfinished sentences and extra-linguistic noises. The authors then offer a linguistic analysis of fluency, intelligibility and appropriateness in conversational English and take up the implications for teaching. In this last section they recommend not only the receptive but the productive advantages of steeping the foreign student in normal colloquial English of this kind, even suggesting help with how to make convincing English hesitation noises. Both book and tape will be fascinating for both students and teachers.

Colour codes

Eric Harrison on programmed learning

Know Your English By Geoffrey Broughton.
Hutchinson International. 6 booklets at 60p each.

The programmed learning movement faltered largely because the logical development from defining your student level was to try to write a different programme for each student. By providing a miniature branching programme of six booklets (two at each of three levels) this series attempts, without benefit of diagnostic test or the presence of a teacher-catalyst, to solve the practical problems of individual work and individual progress in certain limited areas of language. The resulting product is something of a blunt instrument.

The format is seductive: a combination of the teach-through-test technique of the multiple choice question with the immediate reinforcement of the answer at the back of the book, and the student is guided from booklet to booklet according to his score on each.

The answers are supplemented by brief explanations as to why the wrong answers come to be wrong. The motivation would be greatly enhanced, however, if the student

had real conviction that he was starting the course at the right point for him, and if he could see some kind of progression in level from unit to unit, other than the not too obvious variations in word frequencies and vocabulary levels. An introduction giving an explanation of where he is and where he is going would be very helpful.

As things are, the student is required to begin with some self-assessment. Do you know a little English? (blue level for you). You have studied English for a few years (red level for you). Your English is fluent. But do you still make the mistakes of a "foreigner"? (yellow level for you). He then embarks on the series of quiz programmes some parts of which test his general knowledge as much as his English: "All these are colours but which is also the name of a precious stone? What do you play tennis on?"

The EFL teacher will probably regard these booklets as peripheral to the normal teaching resources; they would certainly provide well varied material for word games and group competitions. For the private student, while they offer little in the way of skill development, they would provide stimulation in the general areas of vocabulary, idiom and, to some extent, pronunciation.

Assistants' aid

A Handbook for English Language Assistants. By R. R. Jordan and R. Mackay.
Collins £1.60.
0 00 370100 10.

This handbook will amply meet the needs of anyone about to embark on a year as an English Language Assistant in Europe. The authors have been involved in running short courses for Assistants in Manchester and Newcastle, since 1972 and their book is firmly rooted in practical ideas which have been tried out in France and Germany.

Details are given of the hours and

conditions of work which Assistants may expect, what resources to take from England, what minimum books to buy, as well as advice on getting on with English teachers in a foreign school. Common French and German problems with English pronunciation, as well as syntax and usage, are listed after a brief but accurate summary of the sounds of English.

Ten of the 14 chapters are taken up with practical suggestions for classes in spoken English but there are also useful diagrams and descriptions of the educational systems of France and Germany and a recommended bibliography.

M.H.

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ENGLISH FOR MEDICAL STUDENTS

Clive Brasnett

This book is intended to help the medical and pre-medical student who is planning to study medicine in English. It is assumed that he will have some knowledge of general English, but little experience of studying works in scientific English. Passages have been selected from a variety of standard medical textbooks and reproduced in their original form. In the first part of the book simplified versions precede the actual passages so that the reader proceeds from a familiar kind of English to a less familiar kind. Notes following the passages draw attention to characteristic but unfamiliar features of the kind of scientific English used in medical texts, and exercises provide opportunities for the student to check his understanding of both vocabulary and structure. There are also pronunciation practice lists and a short dictionary is provided. Whereas for some years books have been available designed to help overseas doctors develop their skills in spoken English in order to be able to conduct their day-to-day clinical practice, little attention has been paid to developing reading skills in the field of medicine. Those running English courses for overseas medical students and practitioners will generally want to balance the spoken component of their course with a reading component, such as is provided in this book.

Paperback about £1.20 non-net

Also available: English for Engineers CLIVE BRASNETT

Paperback £1.20 non-net.

TEACHING IN MULTI-RACIAL SCHOOLS

A GUIDEBOOK

David Hill

This book was written partly in response to requests from teachers in schools and colleges of education for a text that would help both beginning and practising teachers to operate effectively in multi-racial schools. Its emphasis therefore is on practical guidance for the classroom teacher. Although there exists a substantial literature in single aspects of teaching in multi-racial schools, for example the background of Asians in Britain or English as a second language, very few of these books are concerned to provide a review of the salient features of all such schools. Since no book can offer information on every pertinent issue, Dr Hill has concentrated on those matters that practising teachers have indicated would be of most use.

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Dateline Sweden

Nigel Richardson on a Scandinavian summer school

For the past 25 years, a party from Uppingham School and one of several girls' schools has run a two-week summer course for Swedish children of 12-14. Based at the international boarding school in Grönna, a holiday village on Lake Vättern, boys and girls' activities are run in parallel, each staffed by three teachers—two English and one Swedish—and six senior pupils from the English schools concerned.

Although it lacks some of the trappings of traditional English education—formal religious assemblies, school uniform etc—the course is advertised by its organizers, Kursverksamheten (the extra-mural department of Stockholm University), as a "summer public school", a deliberate contrast to the highly developed Swedish comprehensive system. The children are organized into "houses", supervised by the English students whenever possible and are expected to observe the normal discipline and do the routine chores of a younger pupil in an English boarding school.

Formal English teaching is divided into three morning lessons. Following an initial written test, the 40 or so members of each group are divided by ability into three forms. Each of these has a daily grammar lesson with the Swedish teacher and lessons in reading and conversation with his English counterparts. Reading books vary from *The Red Mill*, a simple detective story, to abridged versions of *Tom Sawyer* and *Treasure Island* which demand a much wider range of vocabulary.

Conversation classes may centre round an audio-visual presentation and include specific help for the 45 minutes' written "prep" which the children do each night. At the end of the course, more written and oral tests are given to assess each child's individual progress. The English students arrange a wide variety of afternoon activities. All sport is popular: football, volleyball, rounders and swimming being supplemented by tennis, badminton, relays and various forms of *jeux sans frontières*. Art, music and fancy dress competitions also take place; there is a "drama festival" of simple plays and sketches and outings are arranged to local places.

Looking after minorities

Mary Hoffman

Less Commonly Taught Languages: resources and problems. Bilingualism and British Education: the dimensions of diversity. Centre for Information on Language Teaching and Research £1.50 each.

Both these collections of papers are the product of specialist conferences organized by CLIL. Twenty-seven languages were identified at one of them as "less commonly taught", including Bulgarian, Afrikaans, Gujarati, Serbo-Croat and Swahili. What they all had in common was a spoken currency, so that the demand for learning this arose from a practical need. The papers are concerned with details of organization, administration and resources, which appear to be similar across all these languages, rather than with linguistic factors. Mr J. de K. Holman's article, for example, on the teaching of Bulgarian at Leeds University, offers a model of international cooperation and exchange for others to follow.

The report on bilingualism does not limit itself to languages such as Punjabi and Polish, spoken by British immigrants. It devotes three papers to bilingualism in Wales, both the reasons for learning Welsh and the position of teaching and learning English. The collection ends with a series of practical proposals made by working parties of conference participants, to improve the status of "minority languages" in schools.

of interest. The boys' and girls' courses come together whenever possible, although experience shows that single-sex classes are the only way of getting to know all the members of your group in the two weeks.

In the evenings the local sports hall is used for basketball, five-a-side football and handball, organized on a house basis and refereed by the English students, although this invariably leads to heated protests over the alleged English ignorance of handball rules. A series of fanatically contested England-Sweden matches also takes place. There are indoor games sessions, a revue, two discotheque evenings and two films in English. These have included Zeffirelli's *Romeo and Juliet* and Leslie Howard's wartime spy thriller *Pimpernel Smith*. The Swedish film distributor produces excellent bilingual discussion pamphlets which are used to give the children some advance preparation for what they are going to see.

Besides their role in these activities, the English students fulfil an invaluable teaching function. English speaking is improved dramatically—not just through conversation about English television programmes, football and pop stars over meals and the evening supper drinks but also via games of "Call my bluff" and "Twenty Questions" and endless rounds of Mastermind, Scrabble, Cluedo and other board games.

The Swedish children are given a magazine at the start of the course which includes crosswords, competitions and information about England. They, in turn, are expected to contribute to the second edition at the end of the course. The fortnight ends with a speech day to which all parents and families are invited. A brief description of the course and some explanation of the English boarding system are given, each child receives a school report and those who are in winning teams or who have made particular progress in English receive English texts as prizes. Some will

return to Grönna the following year; others will come to England, either for the last four weeks of the summer term or for a follow-up course at Uppingham in August which it is hoped to extend to children of other nationalities in future years.

Both English and Swedish students seem to learn a good deal from each other. The English children find the Swedish children find the discipline of the course at first, but soon they adapt to it; how much more independent Swedish children are at that age than their counterparts back in England—many of 13 year olds think nothing of a 24 hour journey to Grönna entirely unaccompanied; their concern for each other, for example, over a rare case of homesickness at an age when many English children would demand such things as childish, and their lavish hospitality on our way home via Stockholm or Gothenburg. The Swedish children in their turn are always struck by the friendliness and patience of the English 17 year olds for children several years younger, and seem baffled but attracted by the English sense of humour.

For English teachers in Sweden the most noticeable things are perhaps the limited powers and span of concentration of even academically gifted children and the concern of many parents at current developments in Swedish schools. A course that costs over £150 does not attract a cross section of society, even in a country with a high cost of living and a steeply graded tax system; but it is remarkable how surprised parents are at the level of responsibility which the English students will take on, and the fact that English teachers (unlike Swedish ones) will commit themselves to an opinion of each child, even after only two weeks. There seems to be a widespread yearning for Swedish schools to adopt many of the structures and discipline frameworks which are currently being questioned or abolished here in England.

ENGLISH AS A FOREIGN LANGUAGE

From August 9-12 inclusive there will be an exhibition of books and materials for English Language Teaching at

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Under the fertile crescent

Colla Crewdson on archaeology

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and culture has points of profound

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Children's literature

Journeying through time

Mary Hoffman

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Their success, however, brought its

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so did the need to defend and

expand them. The "barbarians"

beyond the boundaries of their

empire were a constant threat and

colossal works of defensive archi-

tecture were necessary to maintain

and strengthen their positions.

It is the history of this confrontation

and the architecture which is the

subject of Barry Cunliffe's book. Unlike

his study of Iron Age communities in

Britain, it does not attempt to cover

the whole of the empire. Instead

the story is traced through a

limited number of selected sites,

each one of which is studied in

depth.

The story of conquest and conflict

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archaeological evidence and there

are maps to help the reader to trace

the routes taken by the Romans and

follow the steady spread of domina-

tion. The progress of Caesar's Gallic

Wars and the campaigns of Agricola

are vividly described in the earlier

chapters while later ones deal with

the victories of Trajan over the

Dacians and battles between the

Romans and their adversaries in

Germany, Hungary and Denmark.

The atlas selected includes defensive

works, army barracks, hill forts and

both houses and the author

describes the archaeological investi-

gation of each site against the back-

ground of its history. In several

cases the reader is employed by

vivid archaeological reconstructions

as well as details of the data collected

and its interpretation. Photographs,

plans and diagrams accompany the

text of this entertaining and infor-

mative book.

R. E. Young

From this introduction to early human society, its cultural accretions and divergencies, its adaptations and acquisitions of power, the cultural specialists: the origins of the alphabet, ancient mosaics, weapons of the ancient world. *Marine Archaeology*, though not so closely related, is not much out of line seeing that it covers the same geographical area, its lack of documentation produces the same lacunae as prehistory.

The series has been designed either as a primer for students, or to channel the ideas of those whose interest in archaeology has been aroused by other media: the subject matter is presented clearly, with many photographs, mostly in black and white, though in *Marine Archaeology* there is a quiet emphasis on "divers at work". However, there is a heavy after-dinner feeling about the prose, which is no aid to concentration, a discursiveness which is slightly at odds with the nature of the series.

Marine Archaeology is exactly what it says it is: there is little about fresh water or wells, or anything outside the Mediterranean, though small sections appear on "Western Europe and the New World", diminishing with distance from its focal point. Archaeology at sea (harbours, ships, trade routes) are material enough to occupy the most energetic underwater archaeologist. This book is perhaps the least successful of the series—perhaps because there are so many recent more thorough and more expensive publications on the market.

Ancient Mosaics is a good introduction to a subject not overburdened with studies, and it is well-illustrated from sources not usually

tapped; where else in a general history could one find so many examples of Byzantine synagogues? One might perhaps hope for a small glimpse of the Mexican art, though it is out of the mainstream of this sadly withered art form.

The illustrations in *Weapons of the Ancient World* show one's appreciation of it a little: even photographs are transposed, two others back to front. One wonders how the Battle of Issus would have ended with Alexander charging from the right. There is little mention here either of stone or bronze weapons—no bolas or boomerangs. Once again the author seems happiest with the rise of Mediterranean bronze-age technology.

Origins of the Alphabet is by far the most successful of the series. The author has tighter control of his material and organizes it to good advantage, especially in the admirable section explaining each letter in turn. Its success perhaps points to over-ambitiousness in the rest of a series which attempts to be "world-wide in its scope" while keeping its feet planted unequivocally in the Eastern Mediterranean, the "fertile crescent", the centre of many ancient empires, is as much the centre of this one too.

Less ambitious in scope but more precisely conceived are two new booklets from the Shiro Archaeology series, which deserve nothing but praise.

Bronze Age Metalwork in England and Wales is an informative and concisely written short history of the various stages of the Bronze Age with the changing influences of continental incursions and cultures. The illustrative section is clear and easy to refer to.

Ancient Mosaics is a good introduction to a subject not overburdened with studies, and it is well-illustrated from sources not usually

The Bronze Age is not an easy period in prehistory to classify or to write about; as a period classified by its metal technology which is itself only a part of it, it must at best remain blurred at the edges, so long as its lifespan is judged by such an indicator. Publications such as this do much to clarify the information we have.

The Roman period is not at all vague or indistinct. *Putney in Roman Britain* is more of an index of pottery types and chronology; it is clear and blunt, with not a breath wasted. For those who are decidedly daunted by the sheer volume and diversity of Roman pottery, this book will be an invaluable help.



Carved hands covered with magic symbols. An illustration from "Through Roman Eyes", by Roger Nichols and Kenneth McLeish (Cambridge University Press £4.25 and £1.95), a book which looks at Roman civilization in the words of Roman writers.

Veni, vidi, vici Easy walking

Rome and the Barbarians. By Barry

Cunliffe. Bodley Head Archaeologies £2.95.

0 370 01578 9

In a little over eight hundred years

the Romans grew from a simple

peasant community into a powerful

empire, stretching across most of

Europe and North Africa and controlling

all the shores of the Mediterranean.

The relentless efficiency with which they

proceeded from conquest to conquest

has matched by the skill and

artistry with which they built their

colonies, and their influence upon

social progress was widespread.

Their success, however, brought its

problems. As their frontiers grew

so did the need to defend and

expand them. The "barbarians"

beyond the boundaries of their

empire were a constant threat and

colossal works of defensive archi-

tecture were necessary to maintain

and strengthen their positions.

It is the history of this confrontation

and the architecture which is the

subject of Barry Cunliffe's book. Unlike

his study of Iron Age communities in

Britain, it does not attempt to cover

the whole of the empire. Instead

the story is traced through a

limited number of selected sites,

each one of which is studied in

depth.

The story of conquest and conflict

is told using contemporary as well as

archaeological evidence and there

are maps to help the reader to trace

the routes taken by the Romans and

follow the steady spread of domina-

tion. The progress of Caesar's Gallic

Wars and the campaigns of Agricola

are vividly described in the earlier

chapters while later ones deal with

the victories of Trajan over the

Dacians and battles between the

Romans and their adversaries in

Germany, Hungary and Denmark.

The atlas selected includes defensive

works, army barracks, hill forts and

both houses and the author

describes the archaeological investi-

gation of each site against the back-

ground of its history. In several

cases the reader is employed by

vivid archaeological reconstructions

as well as details of the data collected

and its interpretation. Photographs,

plans and diagrams accompany the

text of this entertaining and infor-

**AUGUST
ISSUE**

Patrick Moore
THE RINGS OF SATURN

Jenny Pearson
SURVIVOR OF BLOOMSBURY

Tony Osman
WHEN THE SEA TURNS RED

Julian Catchley and Tom Miller
TOP TEN GENERALS

Edward Lucie-Smith
THE TALENTS OF TITIAN

**The Illustrated
LONDON
NEWS**

BRITAIN'S
LEADING
MONTHLY
MAGAZINE

Country matters

Jill Turner visits a Rudolf Steiner school which offers a home to insecure children

This year the Perdur Home School in East Grinstead celebrates 25 years of helping insecure or, as some would have it, maladjusted children—children sent by local authorities because their homes or their schools, or both, cannot cope with them. Never older than 12 when they arrive, and sometimes as young as seven, many are already labelled delinquent and are violent and aggressive; others are withdrawn, anxious, obsessive and psychotic. Perdur's treatment is a quiet, affectionate understanding and a secure and rural environment.

The school follows the curriculum and philosophy of Rudolf Steiner—the Austrian anthroposophist who died in 1925—with almost evangelical enthusiasm. Siegfried Rudel, an alert and benevolent man who runs it as a charitable trust with his wife Joan, was educated in Stuttgart, at one of the first of several hundred Steiner schools throughout the world.

Even the school house, with 55 children in six classes, reflects the windows with sawn-off corners and the rather humpen style of Steiner's Goshensum. But its classrooms are small enough to have both the lightness and cosiness of a large cottage. The children spend most of their time there or in the adjacent self-contained hostels, most of them in simple Scandinavian style, where they live like a family in mixed-age groups.

Perdur does not accept children with an IQ of less than 90. They find IQ tests "pretty reliable", and are anxious to avoid having a child fall behind others, with all the emotional complications that might bring. There are other Rudolf Steiner schools for educationally sub-normal children, they point out, but the aim at Perdur is to get them back to normal schools.

The Rudels can be reasonably selective in deciding which children they think they can help. Nearly all come from urban areas: many from broken homes; many have been in trouble with the police. But once they are accepted, the case-notes are put aside to give the child a clean break, and help the staff to receive them with warmth and interest rather than apprehension. Only at the end of term,

when the school doctor (another Steiner pupil and follower) visits, are they consulted. Often the past they reveal is difficult to believe of the child the school knows.

Mrs Rudel takes the view that the maladjusted child is a normal child reacting to a maladjusted world. She is distressed by parents' lack of interest in their children, and blames boredom and long hours of passively watching television for a lot.

At Perdur both the teachers and house-mothers are "always thinking up nice things for the children to do". The teachers move up with their classes for eight years, and many live in the hostels with their systems demanding in skills and commitment but apparently satisfying in its results.

At the suggestion of parents, anxious to give their children special attention while the others are at school, the year is divided into four terms. Resuming in mid-August with a two-week break in October means not only more frequent contact with home but, Mrs Rudel has found, less fall-out of work as term progresses.

The school timetable, too, is unusual: the same subject is taught for one and a half hours each morning for a month, a feature of Steiner teaching which the Rudels find excellent for children with a poor attention span but high intelligence.

They have found that the short bursts often advocated for children like theirs in fact can make their attention span shorter. With projects rather than subjects, they enable a class to tackle, say, ancient history or physics from all sides—the mathematical, the verbal and, importantly, the aesthetic.

"Every subject has so many facets," Mrs Rudel points out, "and skilful teachers will change the activity at the first sign of boredom. We often find the children go on reading about a subject after we have finished teaching it."

Steiner believed that only a genuinely artistic education can lay the foundations for the healthy development of the will, and that up to the age of seven one should not expect more of a child than that. Even constructive and intellectual toys are eschewed in favour

of painting, handwork and recorder-playing. "The shedding of the milk teeth" is believed to mark the second stage when the child's feelings develop, and after 14 these two processes begin to be controlled by thought. To rush this development is thought unhealthy, and there are no tests or exams: "The whole man must be educated; not only his head."

Physical health is an important if strange part of Steiner's philosophy. Many of the children are on tranquillizers when they go to Perdur, but gradually all are taken off them. The Rudels place their faith in lighter homeopathic medicines: a herbal tea of lavender, valerian root, mullein and honey to help them sleep; peppermint tea for upset stomachs; and a mouthwash of myrrh and cloves to relieve toothache. (Mrs Rudel points out that the school is not a dentist or the hospital for anything serious.)

Occasionally curative eurythmy is prescribed—a Steinerian device described as "neither dance nor mime, but visible speech and song expressed in controlled movements"—though generally the children thrive on the sort of food people used to eat 50 or 60 years ago, and their quiet but stimulating environment.

On a Friday morning most of the children are writing letters home, but they smile and chat about their plans in a less self-conscious and more friendly manner than most of their peers. From what used to be a top class of 12, most have successfully transferred at different ages to normal schools—usually small boarding schools rather than large comprehensives—so that they have all the usual opportunities, and their past difficulties are firmly behind them. The two or three who remain after 16 years of age plan to take evening classes ("I have to think what subject to do", a formerly very withdrawn boy tells me as he comes forward spontaneously to shake my hand), and will transfer to the farm and training centre set up for those who need help for a few more years.

Perdur, named after one of King Arthur's knights, started with 60 acres of land but now has 230, all farmed biodynamically—by

natural methods—according to Steiner's teaching. Routine is an important part of the reassuring process, and the seasonal round is of similar value. The children are eager to help with the haymaking and take pride in the farm and its produce.

The Jersey herd of 40, for example, produces a range of dairy products, including some strong-smelling home-made cheese. The fat, the Perdur community and are sold locally. The wool from the 50 Jacob and Dorset Down breeding ewes (showered by the farm trainees) is sent to Scotland to be spun, then dyed at Perdur with plant extracts—rose madder, dahlia, nettle and licorice—and woven into attractive and saleable rugs, tweeds and clothing.

The wheat is harvested and sent to the professional bakery, to be made into wholemeal loaves for which there is enormous demand; and clay dug on the farm is used in the setting-up of a well-equipped pottery. The pots sell quickly at commercial prices on open days, while people in East Grinstead have found in the shoe-repairing shop, mending which lasts years rather than days, the true value of the skills concerned.

The truism "learn all the skills concerned with this 'good life', and learn to look after their daily needs, cleaning their rooms and doing their shopping in the town. None the less Perdur has found that a few—far only five—continue to need a sheltered environment after the age of 20. Their falls between the departments of Education and Science, Health and Social Security and Employment. Far from letting them down, the Rudels persuaded a trust to buy a large farm in Cornwall where they can practise their considerable skills until a suitable opening can be found for them.

It is easy to see Perdur as a happy, care-free community, and to forget that its children are there because everyone around them at home just could not manage. The Rudels have worked out not just an education but a way of life that helps the children on every front. To children who find life difficult, they offer a range of simple pleasures. Rudel describes Perdur as a greenhouse for seedlings that need to be kept from frost until they are strong enough to be planted out.

Giving them shelter

Gillian Thomas on a residential school for autistic children

Fifteen years of pioneering work in the field of autistic schooling were recognized last year when Mrs Sybil Elgar was awarded an MBE. Her latest venture is the first-ever residential school for autistic children, adoloscens, which she opened two years ago.

Somerset Court stands in 22 acres of ground in a large old house in the village of Brompton, amid lovely countryside, and only a couple of miles from long sandy beaches. Twenty-three autistic children and young people, aged 11 to 23, live there in a community which is partly self-supporting, a system which she believes to be the best answer to the problems of autism.

"To enable the children to live happy and useful lives. That is our aim", she explains. "There is no doubt that in a sheltered environment, which they need to protect them from the hurly-burly of the outside world, most of them can be taught to be more sociable and responsible—and to do things for themselves. Of course the more severely disturbed benefit rather less, but even so they would have to be cared for in hospital. So we are desperately trying to make the most of a viable operation."

Undoubtedly the key factor is finance. The £150,000 project was sponsored by the Baring Autistic Trust, formed by parents from the National Society for Autistic Children's school in West London, of which Mrs Elgar was formerly principal. All the children now at Somerset Court came with her from the Clegg school.

Came from the Department of Education and Science, and the appropriate local authorities pay for two full-time and three part-time teachers, as well as Mrs Elgar. There is a part-time occupational therapist, a gardener, and five trained domestic staff who are covered by social services payments. To make ends meet and to clear the enormous capital costs, the school is undertaking various money-making projects like printing, market-gardening and craft work. As well as providing income, these activities are a basic part of the children's educative process.

"Over the past 10 years we have shown just how much can be done for the autistic child," says Mrs Elgar. "They can not only be taught basic skills like reading and writing, but can also be helped to understand what is going on around them. This means that they are able to cope with life, like going out with their families and taking part in group activities. But much of this progress is lost if at 18 they are thrust into unsuitable environments. They simply cannot cope with the normal world—but institutions for the sub-normal are no place for them either. That is why there is such a need for a special community project like this."

Having begun as a primary teacher, Mrs Elgar moved on to specialize in teaching the handicapped some 20 years ago. This brought her into contact with the problems of autism, to which very little attention was paid until the 1960s.

Convinced of the need for a special teaching approach, she started her own school in 1961 at her home in St John's Wood. A nucleus of three children moved with her to the telephone exchange, which was the first of its kind and was launched by the society largely as a result of her efforts.

At Somerset House the atmosphere is much more that of a home than an institution. When schooling is over, the children can watch television, listen to records, or play table-tennis or badminton. There is also a swimming pool generously provided by a local well-wisher—as were many of the facilities.

The children live in comfortable bedrooms, more like beds than dormitories. There is plenty of room for expansion—when the money is forthcoming. Eventually Mrs Elgar hopes to take up to 40 children.

Working closely with the gardener, two of the older boys are now able to use a spade and shovel to dig the soil. Planting seedlings and picking fruit and vegetables are more demanding, but under supervision some of the children get involved in these, too.

In addition to producing most of the vegetables and fruit it needs, the school also has a garden centre for which the previous year's produce was sold. The children are also involved in planning permission. Tomatoes, apples and leucocysts are sold alongside bedding plants and garden accessories. Here again some of the pupils are involved, with a few even helping on the selling site. Pupils who take part in the woodwork and maintenance programme under the supervision of the woodwork master make seed boxes and other useful items for the garden centre. They also paint the fences and help generally with the upkeep of the house.

Also linked with the gardening activities is the school's cookery programme. From the glut of tomatoes in their greenhouse this summer the staff and children made many pounds of chutney; this followed a big marmalade-making session earlier in the year. They make jam, pickles and jams, too, partly for their own consumption, and partly to sell at the garden centre or at their bazaar.

"We can barely keep up with orders," says Mrs Elgar. "All the locals seem to have heard about us, while parents are eager to buy things whenever they come to visit their children."

Eleven boys and girls take part in the school's domestic programme, and have regular jobs to do in the kitchen. They deal with fruit and vegetables, washing, chopping and peeling them, and help with table laying, bed making and laundry work. Though, basically chores, these activities help an autistic child to develop a sense of responsibility and usefulness.

Another project which is proving highly successful, both financially and for developing the children's skills, is printing. They undertake orders for headed writing, proof-reading, and design and print their own Christmas cards. Two of the boys even print the press on their own, and Mrs Elgar is looking for a bigger one in order to develop their capabilities. Duplicating, keying, filing and envelope are part of the school programme. Again, they undertake outside orders—and also produce a newsletter.

Permanently on display in the large entrance hall is a cabinet of craft work which the children do in class, either with the occupational therapist or Mrs Elgar. Jewelry, soft toys, sweaters, socks, and obviously now is not a good time when there is a shortage of work.

Mrs Elgar foresees that the more able adolescents will be able to go out to work and become integrated in the outside world. Already they take part in village activities like tennis, dancing and horse riding, and like to get hold of a prefabrication unit to enable us to make cement blocks for garden use. I am also hoping to be able to undertake a mechanical assembly unit to undertake work from local factories, though obviously now is not a good time when there is a shortage of work."

"Of course the more severely handicapped are a strain on our resources to the maximum, but what is the alternative? I have seen some of them since they were babies, and there is absolutely no question of their being away."

Classified Advertisements

Index to Appointments Vacant, Wanted and other classifications

Appointments

Appointments

Appointments

Appointments

Appointments

Appointments

Appointments

Appointments

Appointments

Appointments

Appointments

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invites applications for the following posts:

It is expected that the person appointed will take up the appointment in November.

Application forms and further details from the Personnel Officer, County Hall, Newport, Isle of Wight.

Closing date: 18 August, 1976.

EDUCATION DEPARTMENT
Administrative Assistant Schools Meals Service
 Salary—around £3,000 plus £312 Supplement p.a.
 A person with previous experience of the day-to-day administrative and clerical tasks involved in the running of the Service is required to assume responsibility for a range of duties in the Section which includes a team of 6 clerical assistants. All duties undertaken are under the general direction of the School Meals Organiser. Generous relocation expenses offered in approved cases. This is a repeat advertisement and previous applicants need not apply. Further details and application form from Personnel Officer, Town Hall, Forest Road, London, E17 4JF (Tel: 01-527 5544 Ext. 332). Closing date: 20th August. Please quote ref: G.814.

London Borough of
Waltham Forest

CITY OF MANCHESTER EDUCATION COMMITTEE

PRINCIPAL ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

P.O. 1 £4,600/£5,250 plus £312 p.a. supplement
 The post is one of a team of four senior officers working with the Assistant Education Officer (Schools) in the discharge of varied responsibilities and, in the first instance, the officer appointed will be responsible to the Assistant Education Officer for the staffing of schools, and for such other duties as may be assigned from time to time particularly in the field of general administration of schools.

Applicants should have one of the following:
 A degree
 Teaching experience
 Administrative experience

Application forms and further particulars from the Chief Education Officer (E76), Education Offices, Crown Square, Manchester M60 3BB.
 Closing date: 20th August 1976.

CARIBBEAN COMMUNICATIONS PROJECT

PROJECT CO-ORDINATOR

Salary £3,819 plus L.W. (£402)
 Trained teachers with experience in adult education field and in-depth knowledge of creole plus commitment to working in the Caribbean Community may apply.

Organising ability, knowledge of the education system and local government and ability to liaise with statutory bodies and representatives of industry useful. Also, willingness to travel and work unsocial hours.
 The successful applicant will be responsible for supervising the work of 4 regional co-ordinators and organising meetings of the management committee, trainers and tutors in the Project.

Please apply by letter with names and addresses of two referees to the above.

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST

Applications are invited for the following temporary post—

Southern Points 11-22 (£4,734 to £5,800) plus £212 annual salary supplement.
 For the duration of the Academic Year 1976-77.
 The successful applicant will preferably be a fully qualified and experienced Educational Psychologist. Applications will be considered, however, from persons with a good honours degree in psychology and with appropriate teaching experience, who would take up a Trainee Post. In the salary range of £3,000 to £4,551 (Southern Points 6-10) plus £312 annual salary supplement.

The post is superannuable and subject to satisfactory medical and chest X-ray clearance.
 Application forms and further particulars are obtainable from the Director of Personnel and Management Services, 7th Floor, Aldon House, Tyngate Precinct, Sunderland Road, Gateshead, NE8 3EL, Tyne and Wear, to whom completed applications should be returned by 25th August, 1976.

ADMINISTRATION
 Local Education Authority continued

ADMINISTRATIVE MANAGER
 This post is for 250 students, mainly from 11-18 years of age. The work is divided into three main areas: (a) the day-to-day running of the school; (b) the management of the school's financial affairs; (c) the management of the school's physical resources. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the school, the management of the school's financial affairs, and the management of the school's physical resources. The successful candidate will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the school, the management of the school's financial affairs, and the management of the school's physical resources.

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A career in Medical Training

If you have an interest in human biology and medicine and would like to help others learn, this could be your opportunity to develop skills in a modern training methods and gain experience in a stimulating environment. Schering Chemicals, a world's leading company in the field of hormone replacement therapy, is looking for someone to join an established training team and take responsibility for the organisation and presentation of medical training programmes. The latter are renowned for the high standard of technical service they provide to all levels of the medical profession.

The persons appointed will probably be in their late 20s and a graduate, preferably in a biological or medical subject. The ability to communicate effectively is essential and previous adult teaching or training experience would be an advantage. Salary will be attractive and no barrier to the right applicant.

If this position interests you, write to the Personnel Manager, Schering Chemicals Ltd., The Brow, Burgess Hill, Sussex BN15 9NB.

SENIOR EDUCATIONAL PSYCHOLOGIST

Post E267

Applications are invited from experienced Educational Psychologists for this post. An honours degree in psychology, a good teaching background and post graduate training in educational psychology are essential qualifications.

This is one of three senior posts covering the County. The postholder will be based in Lowestoft and have a full responsibility for the Psychological Services in the Northern Area of the County, under the guidance of the Chief Psychologist.

This appointment is made under the terms of the Suffolk Report; the salary scale matches that of a Group 8 Head £8,989-£7,593 plus £312 supplement, and a Group 8 Car User Allowance. Assistance with removal, lodging and disturbance expenses provided in appropriate cases.

Application forms and further particulars (Suffolk Report) can be obtained from the County Educational Officer, Grosvenor Street, Ipswich IP4 1LL, and should be returned as soon as possible.

Suffolk County Council

King's School of English

Teachers of English to overseas students required

Required from beginning September/October. Teachers with general EFL experience, 1 year contract in the first instance. Also, teachers with experience in dealing with problems of non-speaking learners. There are also a few vacancies for teachers interested in ESP. Write for further details, giving qualifications and experience, to: The Principal, ELTEC, 31 Poole Road, Bournemouth BH4 9DL

ELTEC

Centre for English Language and Technical Studies

DIRECTOR OF STUDIES
 required as soon as possible to take charge of course planning and day-to-day supervision of programmes in a new and rapidly expanding Centre offering general and specialist courses. The person appointed will have had experience in EFL teaching and in administration, and will be flexible in meeting the demands of a new kind of school. For further details, write, giving qualifications and experience, to:—

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SUMMER VACATION

July to September

Overnight accommodation in LSE Residences. Individuals/School parties welcome. Enquiries: Miss Trudy Hindmarsh, London School of Economics, Houghton Street, London, EC2A 2AE. Tel: 01-405 7686 Ext. 741

Attention Group Organisers. For more information, write to: Attention Group Organisers, 100, Strand, London WC2R 0AL

